

Merry Christmas!

BETHEL OXFORD COUNTY CITIZEN

Volume I—Number 51

BETHEL, MAINE, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1944

Single Copy—FIVE CENTS

Gen. Marshall Visits Front



The U. S. Army's Chief of Staff, Gen. George C. Marshall, center, inspected a front-line group crew during his recent visit to France. The other helmeted figure is Lieut. Gen. Jacob L. Devers, Commanding General of the Sixth Army Group. Back up these men. Buy at least an extra \$100 War Bond today!

Official U. S. Army Photo From U. S. Treasury



LOOKING AHEAD

By GEORGE S. BENSON
President Harding College
Seabury, Arkansas

Team Work

Whom does your representative represent? This is a fair and timely question, moreover, not as silly as it sounds. He is supposed to represent you and a few thousand other people in your county and nearby counties, but does he do it? If so, how does he go about it? How does he know what the people who elect him think about questions he must help decide?

Of course congressmen all have plenty of people to tell them what to do. Lobbies and pressure groups are always on hand. Whenever a congressman is appointed to an important committee, he can be sure of one thing: a line will form to the left outside his door; people waiting to tell him which side of his bread is buttered, show him very startling statistics, shout scare-words in his ears and/or shed tears on his desk.

Such lines are made up of miscellaneous people, very much like lines that form in cafeterias or at ticket-office windows. Usually nobody is present whom you know or really want to see. But when the unusual occurs; when somebody from back home falls in line at a congressman's door, he gets admitted to the representative's own private office. Why? The congressman wants to see him.

Representatives are elected and sent to Washington to represent the people back home. I know several of them and, all told, I have known a great many. Every one I ever knew wanted sincerely to represent them well. They were smart men but there was not a mind-reader in the bunch. They couldn't sit in Washington and have a very clear idea what the electors expected of them.

The Right Approach
In a few words, the average congressman gets plenty of advice offered to him and very little of it comes from the right place. In rare instances when somebody writes or wires him from back home the message represents one man's hasty, perhaps impassioned, judgment. At other times when messages come in big bunches they plainly reflect a team-up—written by one man, signed by many.

People who know how to walk in crowded streets and build their homes in layers, sometimes make facetious references to Arkansas but down here we are doing something to help congress. Just before Thanksgiving a group of sixty important men of Batesville and thereabout held a meeting to consider some national legislation soon to be considered by their representative. At the end of the meeting they mailed him their opinion accompanied by a list of persons present.

BETHEL RESTAURANT
WILL BE CLOSED
CHRISTMAS DAY

Where the Cameraman "Looks Pretty"



Pte. Anna W. Byrd, Women's Army Corps, adjusts an enlarger as she prepares to make copies of visual aid maps and charts for use in soldiers' classes at Fort Knox, Ky. Photography is one of many types of jobs done by the WAC.

Not an Accident

The gathering was no kind of a coincidence. Somebody called the meeting and made sure that it was conducted in an orderly fashion. Arrangements were made to have some impartial, expert opinion on hand to answer questions, explain technical terms if necessary and speed up deliberations. The matter under discussion was something soon to come up before the committee of which their congressman is a member.

I would like to commend this method to public spirited and patriotic citizens everywhere. It is easy enough for men who don't even know their representative's name to lean against a gate-post for a lamp-post and revile Congress. On the other hand, helping out a congressman who you know wants to do the right thing is loyalty, teamwork and citizenship of the first order.

Rural Bond Sales Effective Step In Postwar Planning

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Secretary of Agriculture Claude R. Wickard today called on American farmers to invest all "extra" dollars in War Bonds during the Sixth War Loan beginning November 20 as an "effective step in postwar planning" for rural America.

Directing his appeal "To the Farm People of America," Secretary Wickard said, "The farm people of this country have an outstanding war record. It still takes a lot of money to finance the war, even though we are winning. The single task of supplying the Pacific theater is a tremendous undertaking. Add to that the equipment which was needed on the invasion coast of France, the supplies that are required now to knock down the walls of Hitler's Germany, and the total is staggering. So our job here at home is by no means over, just as the war on the fighting front isn't over. Our momentous responsibility

To the People of this Community

"Sad little personal belongings are strewn all over these bitter sands." Thus wrote Ernie Pyle from a beachhead in Normandy. More than 2,000 bundles of these belongings, carefully collected and packed by the armed forces, are sent monthly from a Kansas City depot to homes throughout America. That's the current price of victory over enemy forces. These "souvenirs" are enriched with heartaches and drenched with tears.

How long this tragic depot stays in business is up to you. Every second prolongs the slaughter. Every extra \$100 War Bond in the Sixth War Loan helps to shorten the fighting. Can you do less than to lend your money for speedy victory?

THE EDITOR

In twofold: one is to stick to our job and do it well until total victory is won; the other is to buy War Bonds. The farm people of this country have an outstanding war record. They have achieved a production miracle in the face of wartime difficulties. Their bond-buying record is good, too, as indicated by the fact that farmers and their families purchased \$1 billion dollars worth of bonds in 1943. This figures out at about 10 per cent of their net income. This Sixth War Loan campaign is the biggest yet for agriculture, but never before has agriculture had so many dollars that could be put into War Bonds. The record production of farmers, coupled with favorable commodity prices, has pushed their income up to an all time high. The investment of these extra dollars in War Bonds is the most effective step in postwar planning Rural America could take. "Make your share in the future—share your stake in the war."

SALVATION ARMY APPEAL STILL UNDER WAY

In connection with the Salvation Army Annual Appeal for funds, which is now in progress, Lamont Higgins, will commence a systematic solicitation of funds in Bethel and District next Tuesday. Lamont Higgins, Extension Secretary of the Salvation Army for the State of Maine, has been with the Public Relations Department for a number of years. He is considered in Salvation Army circles not alone as a good campaigner, but a man with very sterling character qualities. The citizens who have not made their returns by mail to the Treasurer, Fred B. Merrill, are urged to be requested to do so in order that time and expenses may be saved and thereby the greater good accomplished by the money saved.

TRUE J. BROWN

True J. Brown, died at home on Grover Hill early Tuesday morning. He was born in Albany, May 1870, the son of the late Walter M. and Elizabeth Mason Brown. His entire life has been spent in Albany and Bethel, for the past several years on a farm on Grover Hill.

He is survived by one brother, Bion Brown of South Paris and several nieces and nephews.

BETHEL LOCAL NEWS

Bob Reid of Berlin, N. H. was in town recently.

Mrs. Josephine Monahan was in Berlin one day last week.

Mrs. Ola Tift was the guest of her sister, Agnes French at Norway, Saturday.

Miss Ruth Donahue spent the week end with Miss Alberta Merrill at West Bethel.

Mrs. Philip Davis spent the week end with her husband, who is a patient at Togus Hospital.

Mrs. S. S. Greenleaf, Miss Arlene Greenleaf and Mrs. Carl L. Brown were in Lewiston Tuesday.

Mrs. B. S. Kilborn is leaving Boston this week to spend the winter in St. Petersburg, Florida.

Gilbert LeClair of the University of Maine was a week end guest at his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Syl LeClair's.

Pvt. and Mrs. Avery Angwine, Mrs. Ernest Angwine and Mrs. Ernest Blake were in Lewiston Monday.

The total receipts to date for the State War Chest Fund for Bethel are \$1117.29. Quota for Bethel was \$1100.00.

Mrs. Lena Wright returned Monday from a three weeks visit with her son, William Wright and family at Hartford, Conn.

Mrs. Frank Nary and two daughters, Lee and Sheila, are spending the Christmas vacation in South China, Maine and Boston, Mass.

Miss Mary Tibbitts, of Smith College, Northampton, Mass., is spending a vacation with her parents, Dr. and Mrs. R. Tibbitts.

Miss Alice Bennett and Miss Ida Leo Clough of Russell Sage College, Troy, N. Y., came Tuesday for several weeks vacation at their homes.

Jimmy Browne, son of Mr. and Mrs. S. H. Browne, is a patient at the Cambridge Hospital, Cambridge, Mass., where he underwent surgery Tuesday.

Myron Scarborough left Wednesday for Shadell, So. Dakota, to spend the holidays with Mrs. Scarborough, and their son, Hugh who is training at Sioux Falls.

Billy O'Brien was in Lewiston Saturday, and had the remainder of the casts removed from his arm and leg that were broken when he was struck by a car several weeks ago. He is now able to get around on crutches.

Leonard Kimball has received his discharge from the U. S. Army and returned home.

Gerard Williams has recently been promoted to Lt. (Jr.) and is in training at Hollywood Beach, Fla.

Filmore (Buddy) Clough and Irving (Blackie) Cummings were reunited recently in Salpan. These two boys entered the Naval Air Corps in November 1942 and were together until a few months ago when they were sent overseas.

THE LOW DOWN
FROM HICKORY GROVE

With everybody showing anxiety about jobs after the war, the folk here, I reckon, would like some ideas for us should know what to do. We pay the price, so ought to do some of the things we care to eat ham-burgers versus fillet mignon with mushrooms, we should drop a card to congress, and say so I am writing mine—open letter as below.

Half or more of us live in small places. The Diet of Columbia has become so cluttered up and big that if you live there a spell you have no idea about what is going on elsewhere or what people want.

So to make new employment and get our government back onto the 'U. S. A. band, I propose moving the Capitol Move it nearer the center of our country—some place like Topoka, Kansas, or Terra Haute or Keokuk.

A billion dollars is chicken feed today, so tear down and sell the whole outfit, including roll-top desks, etc., at our present capitol.

Build a new, clean place but half as big—out West. That will make fresh air of the West with clear thinking—we could get back in the groove—be the U. S. A. again.

Yours with the low down,
Jo Serra

MEATS & FATS—Good indefinitely—Red Stamps A8 through Z3 and A5 through S2 in Book Four worth 10 points each. Red tokens worth one point each, used as change. It is expected that the next red stamps will be validated December 31.

PROCESSED FOODS—Good indefinitely—Blue Stamps A5 through Z3, A5 through Z5 and A2 and B2 in Book Four worth 10 points each. No other stamps are expected to be validated for processed foods until Jan. 1, 1945.

SUGAR—Good indefinitely—Sugar Stamps 20, 21, 22, 23 and 24 in Book Four, each good for five pounds Sugar Stamp 40 for five pounds good for five pounds for home canning through Feb. 28, 1945.

FUEL, OIL—August 31, 1945—Last day for period four and period five coupons of 1943-44 issue. Valid 1 coupons of 1944-45 issue now. All coupons worth 10 gallons a unit.

GASOLINE A-13 coupons, good for four gallons each, expires Thursday, December 21. A-14 coupons, good for four gallons each, become good Friday, December 22, and remain good through March 22, 1945. B4, C4, D5, E5, F5 and G5 coupons good for five gallons each until further notice.

SHOES—Good indefinitely—All-1 stamps No. 1, No. 2, and No. 3 in War Book Three good for one pair of shoes each.

Berlin Takes Gould 35-27

Gould Academy's small but hard fighting quintet, put up a game battle Tuesday, outscoring Berlin's rugged team in the last half 16-11; but it was not enough to overcome the visitor's 24-11 lead at the half. The game started out to be a "nip and tuck affair" with Berlin leading 8-7. It was the second period that really spelled defeat for Gould as Houley and King stepped into the scoring column with 10 points between them. Vachon, VanKleeck, and Abell also added a basket each to swell the periods score to 16. While this avalanche of scoring was going on Gould connected for only 4 points. This gave the Mountaineers a commanding lead of 24 to 11 at the half.

In the second half a change of defensive tactics stopped Berlin cold as they didn't score for the first seven minutes. Gould began to close the gap and at one time had

the score at 23-28 against them. They couldn't, however, overcome Berlin's veteran team.

GOULD					
Emery, rf	2	0	4		
Lyon, lf	3	1	1		
Stowell,	0	0	4		
Lawry, c	2	2	2		
Young, rg	1	1	2		
Norwood, rg	1	0	2		
Allen, lg	2	1	6		
	11	5	27		

BERLIN					
Abell, rf	3	0	6		
VanKleeck, lf	3	1	7		
Pilbottle	0	0	3		
Vachon, c	3	2	8		
Houley, rg	4	0	8		
King, lg	3	0	6		
	16	3	35		

Gould 7-11-17-27
Berlin 8-24-28-35
Referee—Francis Chittell



Word has been received by Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Holt that their son, Raymond Holt was wounded in action in Germany November 3.

Alfred Ernest Grover has just returned to La Junta, Colorado, where he is receiving training as an aviation cadet. He enlisted in June, 1943 and has been stationed at Gulfport Field, Mass., Des Moines, Iowa, Santa Anna and Minter Field, Calif. This was the first furlough he has had. His older brother, Howard Grover has enlisted in the Merchant Marine as a radio operator after having received a medical discharge from the U. S. M. C. because of injuries received in the Pacific.

Pvt. Elton R. Cooldge left Monday for Camp Barkley, Texas after spending a ten day furlough with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Cooldge.

Robert Keenan A. S. left Monday to return to Sampson, N. Y., after spending a five day leave with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Keenan.

Richard Bryant S. 2-c of Newport, R. I., spent the week-end at his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Myron Bryant.

Sgt. Roderick McMillan of New Orleans, La., is spending a furlough in town.

Pvt. Francis Berry of University of New Hampshire, spent the week end at his home.

R. Donald Holt T. C. 1-c is spending a leave with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. C. Holt.

Pfc. Clayton Bryant of Camp Edwards, Mass. is spending a 10 day furlough at his home in Greenland, Pvt. Avery Angwine, who has been spending a furlough with his family, left this morning for Fort Meade, Md.

George L. Wright S. 1-c arrived Monday evening for a leave with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Wright of North Newry. Since March, 1941 he has been stationed with the Seabees in Corsica.

Leonard Kimball has received his discharge from the U. S. Army and returned home.

Gerard Williams has recently been promoted to Lt. (Jr.) and is in training at Hollywood Beach, Fla.

Filmore (Buddy) Clough and Irving (Blackie) Cummings were reunited recently in Salpan. These two boys entered the Naval Air Corps in November 1942 and were together until a few months ago when they were sent overseas.

ENGAGEMENT ANNOUNCED

Dr. and Mrs. Sherman S. Greenleaf of Bethel announce the engagement and forthcoming marriage of their daughter, Arlene Mae-rice to Cpl. Donald S. Brown, son of Mr. and Mrs. Carl Brown of Bethel.

Miss Greenleaf graduated from Gould Academy in 1939, attended the New England Conservatory of Music in Boston, and is now teaching piano in Bethel.

Cpl. Brown graduated from Gould Academy in 1938, has been in the army the past four years and is spending a furlough at home after 26 months service in the Southwest Pacific.

BETHEL FARM BUREAU

The Bethel Farm Bureau met Wednesday afternoon at Mrs. Royal Hodsdon's. Officers were elected for the next year as follows:

Pres.—Mrs. Royal Hodsdon
V. Pres.—Mrs. Joe Merrill
Sec. and Treas.—Mrs. Edna Smith
Clothing—Mrs. Iola Forbes
Food Management—Mrs. Dorothy Abbott
Home Management—Mrs. Leola Poore

Plans were made for next year. A Christmas tree, with exchange of gifts was enjoyed.

The next meeting will be January 16, at Mrs. Leslie Poore's. Subject, "Table Service—Refreshers," led by Mrs. Dorothy Abbott.

FRANKLIN GRANGE

BRYANT POND

Franklin Grange, P. of H. held their regular business meeting Saturday evening, December 16th. The following officers were elected for the ensuing year.

Master—Harris Hathaway
Overseer—Latty Day
Chaplain—Margaret Howe
Lecturer—Rena Howe
Secretary—Martha Dudley
Treasurer—Blair Cole
Steward—Francis Bean
Assis. Stew.—Irving Cushman
L. A. Steward—Alice Dudley
Gate-keeper—Richard Cole
Ceres—Clara Whitman
Flora—Beatrice Felt
Pomona—Arlene Swan
Ex. Com.—Herman Cole
Charister—Annie Davis
Janitor—Gordon Farnum
Juvenile Matron

—Edith Hathaway
Miss Florence Cushman resigned as Treasurer of Franklin Grange having completed twenty-five years of faithful service in that office.

The program was opened with a vocal duet by Beatrice Judkins and Margaret Howe. While Christmas, The audience joined in the singing of the old familiar Christmas songs, Silent Night, O Little Town of Bethlehem and Hark! the Hoed and Angela Sing. This was followed by a Christmas tree with Francis Howe and Richard Cole passing out gifts. Popcorn and candy were served.

WEST BETHEL FARM BUREAU

The West Bethel Farm Bureau met last week at the home of Mrs. Ruth Grover. A pot-luck dinner was enjoyed at noon after which Christmas gifts were exchanged. Also an interesting discussion of Christmas suggestions followed. The following officers for 1945 were chosen:

Chairman—Olive A. Head
Assistant Chairman—Carla Bennett
Secretary—Mary Richardson
Substitute Sec.—Irene Wheeler
Food Leader—Ella Hale
Assistant—Ruth Grover
Clothing Leader—Ola Merrill
Assistant—Mary Richardson
Home Management Leader—Clara Smith
Assistant—Marion Perry

The next meeting will be Feb. 21 at the Grange Hall.

Announcement

Dr. Kneeland is prepared to examine eyes and fit glasses.
Office
Anne Young House, Bethel

WEEKLY NEWS ANALYSIS

French-Russ Treaty Highlights Political Activity in Europe; Hem In Japs on Northern Leyte

Released by Western Newspaper Union.
(EDITOR'S NOTE: When opinions are expressed in these columns, they are those of Western Newspaper Union's news analysis and not necessarily of this newspaper.)



Stark with realism, this picture from the western front shows a doughboy looking on the shelling of Saarlautern while a chicken struts about the feet of a dead German soldier in foreground.

PACIFIC:

Springing Trap

Fighting on Leyte Island slowly but surely developed into a knock-down, drag-out battle at close quarters, as Yanks compressed the enemy on the northwestern hump of the island from three directions.

As a result of the 7th division's landing below Ormoc, the Japanese main lines not only were threatened from the north and east but from the south as well. Although broad mountains impeded passage from the east, and form a narrow corridor from the north helped to the enemy defense, the country flattens out above Ormoc, offering opportunity to roll up the Japanese lines from the rear.

Despite the danger to their lines on Leyte, the Japs signified an intention to fight it out, with battle raging in the clouds.

"In serving on the sea, be a corpse saturated with water."

"In serving on land, be a corpse covered with weeds."

"In serving in the sky, be a corpse challenging the clouds."

"Let's all die by the side of our loved ones."

WORK OR FIGHT:

Tighten Draft

Aimed at replacing soldiers released for war production and stemming a growing movement of workers to nonessential industries with postwar employment opportunities, the government ordered the drafting of all men between 20 and 37 not engaged in necessary occupations.

At the same time, the government announced that truck and tire workers would go on a seven-day week, with time and a half pay for the sixth day and double time for the seventh, in an effort to speed up the production of goods for the army. On the western front alone, it was revealed, no less than 500,000 trucks are operating in supplying the troops.

So far, several thousand soldiers have been released to help relieve a critical manpower shortage in important arms plants, a shortage aggravated by the growing movement of 50,000 war old men to nonessential industries with the consent that the recent induction draft free 26 made them relatively draft free.

Also, fronting Executive Service a fear coming of his draft rolls was the increasing need for army replacements. Maj. Gen. Hersey said 10 to 15 per cent within the next few months.

FOOD EXPORTS:

Europe's Needs

Except for Russia, the food situation in Europe is in better condition than anticipated, and postwar needs chiefly will center on items with a long production cycle or with a long processing time, a WFA official said.

Although the Russians may return to normal production of grain, peas, beans and similar crops in their famed "breadbasket" province of the Ukraine by next year, WFA Deputy Director C. L. W. Olmstead said it will take three years to bring output of meats, fats, oils and sugar to prewar levels.

Because of the Germans' inability to receive bumper 1944 harvests from France during the lightning Allied thrust across the country this summer, that nation has a relatively good food supply, Colonel Olmstead said. In Italy, the problem primarily is one of strengthening shattered communication lines, he stated.

Battle Fare

The famous soldier who said "An army travels on its stomach" never had the food supply problems faced by General Hodges' 1st Army.

The menu of an army in the field doesn't always come from standard cans of food and was covered packages. Fighting and chasing an enemy often requires a soldier to feed himself with compact food kits which he can stuff into his pocket, but portable stoves, mobile bakeries, coffee serving units, and huge refrigerated trucks move behind.

CIGARETTES:

Distribution Plan

With the cigarette supply about 70 per cent of normal and little possibility of improvement in the situation for the duration because of manpower shortages, the nation's wholesalers are planning rationing of stocks to assure an equitable distribution throughout the country.

Under the trade's plan, it was said, each retailer would receive an allotment based on his normal sales. In so doing, wholesalers would try to adjust deliveries to meet shifts in population, which have complicated the problem of adequate distribution.

According to one trade official, the estimate of a 70 per cent supply of cigarettes is an overall figure, since stocks vary. Since the cigarette famine started, one midwestern center has received a 70 per cent supply of two popular brands and about 52 per cent of two others, it was said.

EGGS:

WFA Sells Stocks

In an effort to speed the movement of eggs into consumption before production seasonally increases, the War Food Administration announced that it would sell its remaining government owned stocks 10 per cent below authorized ceilings.

Of more than 6,000,000 cases of 30 dozen each bought during the heavy production period of 1944 to hold up prices, an estimated 575,000 cases remain, it was said.

The government stands to lose \$10,000,000 from its 1944 egg operations, it was said, despite the fact that it expects to net 5 to 7 cents a dozen more on its last batch than it paid for them since prices are higher now than at the season of peak output.

Inventories are sufficiently depleted to enable buyers to absorb its present offerings, WFA said.

This Pen's Like Home

"We have an inmate here who doesn't want to leave," a guard told wondering Warden Joseph E. Ragen at Illinois' Stateville prison. "He says he likes it here. And he can't stay."

Noted for his fair but disciplined handling of convicts, Ragen sentenced the inmate, completing a sentence of 1 year to 15 months for obtaining money under false pretenses. "I have no place to go and I would like to stay here," the man said.

"I'm complimented," said Ragen, who returned as Stateville's warden following the sensational Roger Touhy break. "But I'm sorry I can't accommodate you. Under the law I may not keep you here one day longer than the court's order calls for."

FAIR SEX:

Want Privileges

U. S. women, it seems, not only want their cake but they want to eat it, too.

So must have thought Thomas A. Johnston, director of the General Motors division of the United Automobile Workers Union, upon addressing the first national women's conference of the UAW in Detroit, Mich.

Said Johnston: "If women insist on getting the same rate of pay plus rest periods, which men do not get, then the men will raise a howl."

The 150 delegates at Johnston in a hurry, typical comment being: "More should not be considered 'brown' important than brains, etc., etc." A man worker would not expect his wife or sister to do heavy lifting, etc., etc., etc.

Among other things, the delegates asked continuation of the fight for equal pay; abolition of special job classifications for women; and opportunities for advancement to top positions.

SOUTH:

New Farming

Because of the use of new strains of sweet potatoes in feeding cattle, southern agriculture is gradually changing from a basic cotton economy, J. F. Percy of Alexandria, La., told the 26th annual convention of the American Farm Bureau in Chicago, Ill.

At the same time, A. D. Brown, Jr. of Denning, N. M., president of the American Livestock association, assailed the development of a postwar export program for the sale of manufactured goods through the importation of products already raised here in surplus or in adequate volume.

Not only is the feeding of sweet potatoes enabling southern farmers to increase dairy production and fatten up cattle, Percy said, but it also is forcing them to put more acreage into supplementary pasturage of hay and forage crops, further reducing the planting of soil-depleting cotton.

MEAT LABELS

Because many primal cuts carried no labels under previous marketing procedures, thus enabling some butchers to collect ration coupons for point-free meats, OPA ordered slaughterers to stamp all carcasses of beef, veal, lamb and mutton at least every two inches along all primal cuts.

OPA also revealed that many consumers purchasing up-graded meat were charged for a better quality than received.

The Three Wise Men

Nothing is known for certain concerning the identity of the "wise men." All that we learn from the gospel is that "wise men" appeared bringing gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. We do not know who they were or what were their names or how many there were. The common supposition is there were three of them. That idea arises from the fact that there were three gifts. Some of the early Christian writers thought there were 12. Later Christian writers still name them, giving their names as Melchior, Caspar and Balthasar. Persia would probably be the place from which they came, because they were interested in the stars and the Persians were great star gazers. Another tradition gives them the rank of kings, but the gospel tells nothing save that "wise men" came.

The Benediction

At first we thought no Christmas tree this year.

Our six-foot sons a year ago had dwarfed.

That festive show of holiday decors and reached, with ease, the highest shining star.

They slept quite late, as I remember, at Christmas morning breakfast, then.

With friendly condescension, after that I don't believe they saw it any more.

So let's depend, we said, on wreaths and bells.

To brighten up the house, we'll take our ease.

And be content; no tinsel-lit floor, No twisted strings of lights to pack away.

All very fine! But who would tell that when the warm, nostalgic breath of balsam struck.

Our sense in that crowded little shop 'Twould conjure up such vivid memories.

For, with that scent, come into swift review the Christmases of many happy years.

The skirts and hose, the gloves and ties gave place.

To skates and hockey sticks, and these, in turn,

To books, electric trains and still more toys.

Then toys which buckled and rolled when wound with keys;

Back through the days of carts and balls and drums.

To dwell on one—the first our baby knew.

How young we were! How many bright ideals.

We're yet untarnished by the blight of time;

Just as those gayly-colored, tinsel things.

Which graced the tree; and like our youthful dreams.

Some broke to bits, some dimmed with passing years,

And some were changed for new ones later on.

Perhaps just one more tree—ice still hangs lights.

And dreams enough to make a brave display.

So there it is! Not many candy canes are hanging from its boughs, and, oh, a few lights.

Don't make a noise, or roll across the floor.

But, each to each, a love more strong, mature,

Is wrapped in every box, and now I know.

The tree has done its part to make the day;

That perfumed incense, born in northern woods.

Has breathed a benediction on us all.

—H. S. Dimes, Associated Newspapers—WNW Feature.

Brazilian Christmas Midsummer Festival

The Christmas season in Brazil begins on Christmas eve and climaxes with the Feast of Epiphany. Since it really is June in January, the equinox, Christmas is a midsummer festival endowed with fireworks, boating, excursions, and open air "festas."

The "old" Brazilian Christmas traditions are those imported from Portugal, the mother country. Impetuous, prothonary are colorful and intimate parts of the church festival.

Midnight mass on Christmas eve is preceded by gala late supper and dancing "festas." The mass itself is called Missa de Gallo, presumably because it is solemnized at the hour of the cocks' crowing, and is celebrated with greater or lesser pomp throughout the land.

A lesser many Brazilians wander about on Holy Night attending different churches and listening to the church bells proclaim the birth of the Saviour.

Christmas day is observed as a day of spiritual union by the Christian churches and is so designated in the official list of Brazilian national holidays.

The geographic vastness of Brazil implies the actuality of many local and charming customs, ceremonies, folk dances and "festas" and the new traditions, while not displacing these established customs, sociably jogs right along with them.

Christmas Trees for Birds

Preparations for Christmas are almost as much fun as the Great Day itself.

Scandinavian children follow the harvesters in the fall to gather stored stalks of grain; these are stored away until Christmas time when small bunches thereof are fastened to long poles which, when driven into the ground, become Christmas trees for the birds.

Other countries too bread and other food items to Christmas trees for birds.



Explaining the 7 1/2 Cent 5 Cent Cigar

"Under an OPA order, the cigar industry is permitted to charge 7 1/2 cents for the old-time 5-cent cigar that has been selling for 6. This will mean a saving of 50 million a year to cigar smokers who have been forced to pay 10, 15 and 20 cents for a cigar about the quality of the former 5-cent smoke."—News Item.

"I don't quite get it."

"It's simple, if you stand still and don't twitch."

"Look, how will it save smokers 50 million if they pay 7 1/2 cents for the new cigar?"

"The seven-and-a-half-cent will be the same as the old nickel cigar."

"But there ain't been a nickel cigar in years."

"Yes there has, but it has cost six cents."

"Okay. I just took another aspirin. Go ahead."

"So OPA authorizes you to pay seven and a half cents for the five-cent cigar for which you have been paying six cents."

"How does that save me 50 million smackers?"

"Because for a cigar as good as the old-time nickel cigar you have had to pay 10 cents."

"Go on, I'm still on my feet."

"From now on you only pay 7 1/2 cents for what you would have to pay 10 cents."

"But I never bought 10-cent cigars."

"Okay. You'll be saving lots of money."

"How?"

"It's easy. By smoking the cigar you may soon get through OPA for 7 1/2 cents you will be saving money on the cigar you never buy for 10 cents."

"But I asked for a seven and a half cent nickel cigar today and they ain't out yet."

"Did you ask for the 7 1/2 cent nickel cigar that cost 6 cents up to the time they thought up the 7 1/2 cent cigar that will cost 10 cents?"

"Yeah."

"That leaves you even."

"How?"

"If you can't get the seven and a half cent cigar you ain't out anything, provided you don't buy something else that costs more."

"Is that ad valorem or ne plus ultra?"

"It's without matches, due to the fact OPA has not acted on the free matches now selling for one cent that may be raised to three cents to keep you from burning your fingers at the pre-war level."

"Where are we now?"

"Fourth down, in the shadow of the cigar store Indian, 33 yards to go."

"Got a cigarette?"

"A saboteur, eh?"

Hitler Explains His Silence

I cannot talk about the war—There's nothing I can say;

I have so many things to do I cannot get away;

To speak is quite impossible—No message can I bring.

For I've discovered suddenly The war's a pressing thing.

The milke and I were lovers once But we are parted now;

Affairs that keep me silent, achi Are pressing on my brow;

My viewpoint's undergone a change And now at words I balk;

At last I think it nice to let The other fellow talk.

I never thought the day would come When far off I would stew

And let another make my speech... (And neither, friends, did you!)

I never dreamed there'd come a time—(So mark this day with chalk!)—When Germany would hear these words:

"Der Fuehrer cannot talk!"

I realize you're mystified

When Himmler reads my stuff;

It must seem strange to hear my speech

Read from another's cuff;

But still I greet you from afar

Where I must work and sweat

Too busy to leap to the mike

In wartime... WANNA BET?

As long as only I myself was the object of some persecutions among certain Germans I could be magnanimous and overlook their actions. But whoever use a dagger or bomb today against the State will be destroyed without mercy."—Hitler.

You remember, of course, how magnanimous Adolf used to hand things over to Himmler in the interest of magnanimity, and they were popularly called the "Magnanimity Boys."

The OPA announced that on Christmas restaurants would not be allowed to charge more than 10 cents extra over what they charged for turkey dinners a year ago.

News Item.

Wanna bet?

The Lotus Club of New York which has been for men only for 74 years has capitulated and gone over to the ladies. It was about the last place in New York where a man could hide from his wife.

Befana's Legend Lives On in Italy

Befana was sweeping her threshold when the Wise Men passed on their way to Bethlehem—and Befana finished her sweeping before she thought about going to Bethlehem. Finally she blew out her candle, latched her door and, clutching her basket of treasures, she set out to follow the Wise Men.

A straw doll and a large seed—these were Befana's treasures. The large seed had been her own baby's ball and, long ago, chubby hands had fondled the straw doll whose garment she had made from a piece of her wedding dress. Had not the shepherd told her the Little King was a poor child? As she hurried onward, Befana visualized the Little King fondling her meager treasures.

Alas! then passed and morning came; then night again, and there was no one from whom she might ask the way. When the Star disappeared Befana knew that, having hesitated, she would search forever without finding the Christ Child.

In Italy, La Befana goes from house to house bearing gifts to children on Epiphany eve. Her counterpart, Russian Babouska, knocks on each door with her staff and, entering, holds a candle to the faces of sleeping children. She slips a toy beneath their pillows and hurries on, always hoping she is bearing gifts to the Babe of Bethlehem whom she has never found.

Sweepers of Armageddon! let there be this Christmas—lest the swifter hour passes, lest both sweepers and broken dreams of childhood join the wanderings of Befana.

Army Exchange Is Biggest Santa Claus

The biggest Santa Claus of them all, the army exchange service, has started its "do your Christmas shopping early" campaign—and by early it means right now.

For overseas Joe, who can't join the Night-Before-Christmas department store crowds, the exchange service has issued its "Christmas gift suggestions" catalogue.

The catalogue's No. 1 item is war bonds, for a home, for family, for education—but for those who want to contribute toward a gift bedecked



GIs play Santa

tree or a packed stocking, the catalogue has suggestions for every member of the family.

For mother, the sister or the "best gal," the catalogue lists perfumes, jewelry, compact and other women's niceties—all of them the very best.

The APO soldier can buy a tie, shaving kit, play chain and other items for dad and Bud. Books, playing cards, luggage, cigarette cases and other welcome gifts are listed in the catalogue for relatives and friends.

Naturally there is a children's section with dolls and other toys. Consideration is also given to the old holiday gift reliable, candy.

The army exchange service's claim to being the biggest Santa Claus is borne out by the 360,000 orders handled last Christmas, according to the Army Times.

But even this large total will be small fry compared to the 1,500,000 to 2,000,000 orders expected this year.

Operating on a nonprofit basis, the army exchange gift service isn't just a holiday organization. It provides gifts for every occasion—birthdays, Mother's day, Easter and any other time a soldier feels like sending a gift to someone.

TOO GENEROUS

A 40-year-old woman stood on a New York subway platform during the afternoon rush period peeling bills off a thick roll and tossing them to a quickly galloping crowd with the cheery cry: "A Merry Christmas. Have lots of luck."

As people scrambled madly for the money, policemen stopped the fun with the ruling that the woman could do what she wanted to with her money but that her manner of distribution constituted disorderly conduct.

Outdoor Decorations

Before the era of electric lights, men were obliged to confine the expression of their Christmas spirit indoors. Symbolizing this spirit were the bearded indoor tree, sprigs of holly, gaily wrapped gifts, and the comely grinning card.

Came the advent of the colorful multiple burning Christmas-tree lamps like glowing jewels on a string. Came "projector" lamps designed for outdoor flood and spotlighting. The custom of expressing the Yule spirit outside has grown.

Before the era of electric lights, men were obliged to confine the expression of their Christmas spirit indoors. Symbolizing this spirit were the bearded indoor tree, sprigs of holly, gaily wrapped gifts, and the comely grinning card.

Came the advent of the colorful multiple burning Christmas-tree lamps like glowing jewels on a string. Came "projector" lamps designed for outdoor flood and spotlighting. The custom of expressing the Yule spirit outside has grown.

Before the era of electric lights, men were obliged to confine the expression of their Christmas spirit indoors. Symbolizing this spirit were the bearded indoor tree, sprigs of holly, gaily wrapped gifts, and the comely grinning card.

Came the advent of the colorful multiple burning Christmas-tree lamps like glowing jewels on a string. Came "projector" lamps designed for outdoor flood and spotlighting. The custom of expressing the Yule spirit outside has grown.

Before the era of electric lights, men were obliged to confine the expression of their Christmas spirit indoors. Symbolizing this spirit were the bearded indoor tree, sprigs of holly, gaily wrapped gifts, and the comely grinning card.

Came the advent of the colorful multiple burning Christmas-tree lamps like glowing jewels on a string. Came "projector" lamps designed for outdoor flood and spotlighting. The custom of expressing the Yule spirit outside has grown.

THE STORY THUS FAR who hates herself for a job she does not want, as Duncan, grandfather of Zorrie, wrote in his memoirs, Zorrie, dances with Steve, some brother, only to die as a Nazi spy. The ad some of his memoirs to Zorrie are critical. On re-statement Zorrie discovers a book and an important meeting are missing. She Lanning, with whom she was living, is a Nazi spy.

CHAPTER I

Zorrie came to the deck and started across outside the Palm Room. She stopped at a window and saw Steve dancing with Lanning. A wave of the jealousy returned. She Zorrie walked on. She

There walked aft on the deck. There was no moon. It was night. She found stairs a lower deck. She went a few flights and came to a balcony on either side.

At the end of this climb that went up. She climbed. She passed one deck after another.

Zorrie leaned on the rail down at the water. Gill showed the race and church lashed white by the propeller was blackness.

GIRL OVERBOARD

by GEORGE F. WORTS

WNU RELEASE

THE STORY THUS FAR: Zorie Corey, who hates herself for being meek and shy, finds herself railroaded into taking a job she does not want, assisting Admiral Duncan, grandfather of her fiancé, Paul Duncan, to write his memoirs. Aboard the steamer, Samoa, en route to Hawaii, Zorie dances with Steve, Paul's handsome brother, only to discover that Paul is a Nazi spy. The admiral dictates some of his memoirs to Zorie. Steve and Paul are critical. On returning to her stateroom Zorie discovers that her note book and an important treatise on engineering are missing. She suspects Amber Lanning, with whom she shares her stateroom.

CHAPTER IX

Zorie came to the turn of the deck and started across. She was outside the Palm Room. She stopped at a window and looked in. The Palm Room was crowded. She saw Steve dancing with Amber. Watching them, she forgot Mr. Lanning. A wave of this afternoon's jealousy returned. She wanted to cry. She felt neglected and unloved. Zorie walked on. She felt desperate.

She walked aft on the other side. There was no moon. It was a black night. She found stairs leading to a lower deck. She went down several flights and came to an iron bulwark on either side.

At the end of this deck were steps that went up. She climbed them. She passed one deck and climbed another.

Zorie leaned on the rail and looked down at the water. Ghostly light showed the race and churn of water lashed white by the propellers. Beyond was blackness.

What was she to do about the stolen notebook? To whom could she turn for counsel?

In her confusion and woe, she thought of the cast-iron Buddha on Professor Folsome's desk—"the genuine jungle wishing Buddha"—and her three wishes. She had wished to be transported to an enchanting land of palms and flowers, of jade seas and singing birds, and of charming people as gallant to take advantage of her weakness. She had wished that Paul would go there, too. And she had wished that she would lose her meekness.

Since then, everything had gone wrong. It was as if the jungle Buddha were granting a parody of her wishes. If she were superstitious, she would believe that the Buddha was an evil genie of iron who dealt solely in the cruellest irony.

She suddenly tasted on her lips the dust and rust of his iron forehead.

A soft mocking whisper came out of the darkness just behind her. "Ah-nah!" It said, "Ah-nah!"

A hand was brutally clamped over her mouth. Another hand went scooping under her knees. She was swiftly lifted to the rail and over it. She was thrown far out.

She fell down and down through the blackness toward the churning white water.

Zorie was falling through blackness as you fall in a dream, falling and falling, never reaching bottom. If you reach bottom, in a nightmare fall, your heart, some people say, stops beating.

Her brain must have been working frantically, because she did not have long to dwell on the horror of her fate.

It was like cold claws tearing her heart to shreds.

Long before she struck the water, Zorie was fighting for her life. She took a deep breath and held it.

Paul had told her that anyone falling from a swiftly moving ship is almost inevitably sucked into the propellers, is instantly battered and torn to pieces by the giant steel blades.

She struck the water. The shock of the impact almost knocked the air out of her. The next instant she was deep in the insane churn from the propellers, with their mighty rhythm thumping in her ears. She was a helpless rag of a girl caught in insane convulsions of water. She was violently jerked, whirled and tossed this way and that by savage currents. She felt as if she were being torn apart.

There was only one thing she could do to help herself—she could hold her breath. She might be held down indefinitely, sucked this way and that by monstrous eddies. Chance alone would determine whether or not she would be drawn into the thumping steel blades.

She tried to hold her breath. She held her breath until she thought her lungs would burst.

She flailed the hissing water with her arms. She could not draw in her breath, or force it out. Some water was lodged in her throat, and it would not let the air pass. She tried to dislodge the obstacle but it stayed there.

But even in her panic, her brain was trying to work out this problem. Zorie was a fair swimmer. Ordinarily, she was not afraid of water. The sensible thing to do was to relax, to lie on her back and make no effort.

So she lay on her back. After a moment, she coughed the water out. She could breathe again. But her heart was still a frantic chattering in her ears.

She could see the "Samoa" no more. It had evidently sped on into the night.

Her fate was inevitable. She would paddle about in this great waste of water until she was too tired to paddle about any more, then she would simply sink.

Zorie began to think more clearly. It would have been better if she had been sucked into the propellers and battered to pulp. It would have been a far kinder fate.

Zorie thought of Paul, and she suddenly wanted to cry. Poor Paul! He would be sorry, as people always are when someone has died—sorry for the unkind things he had done to her, and the kind things he hadn't done for her. And how would Steve feel? And Aunt Hannah? And the admiral? All of them! All these people who had treated her as a human doormat!

A white ghostly glow was beginning to fill the world. It silvered the tips of the small rolling waves about her. It seemed to fill the sky. It was like the glow that is supposed to accompany a religious miracle.

All this time Zorie had been lying on her back, resting, getting her breath, calming her heart. Now she turned over and faced the glow. It was a dazzling spot of white glare not more than two hundred yards away. It was floating on the water in the direction opposite to that in



She fell down and down through the blackness toward the churning white water.

which she had thought the "Samoa" had vanished.

She cried out involuntarily with relief and joy. It must be a life-ring! Someone must have seen her go overboard, and thrown the ring! Paul had explained them to her. When the life-ring was thrown into the water a magnesium flare attached to it by a short rope was spontaneously ignited, its glare would guide a swimmer in the dark to the ring.

She struck out toward it. The flare blinded her. She did not see the "Samoa" turning about until it miraculously stopped not far away, a blaze of horizontal rows of lights. Then she was blinded by the beam of a searchlight on the bridge. It went off in a moment.

She swam steadily. She was growing tired. Her slippers were gone. She was all in. She had not realized how the shock, the horror of her immersion had exhausted her until she tried to use her arms and legs.

The magnesium flare seemed no nearer. The strength seemed to be draining out of her arms, her chest, her legs.

This inability to reach safety, something to cling to until she was rescued, was more nearly like a nightmare than her moments in the savage thrust of water from the ship's screws.

Then the white flare seemed suddenly closer. She put what was left of her strength into a final spurt. She reached the life-ring. But she was now so weak she could hardly cling to the canvas-covered cork.

The rest of it was a confusion of shouts and men's red faces in the white glare, and the rattling of oars in oarlocks. Someone pulled her into a lifeboat. A gruff voice—she never knew to whom it belonged—was calling her a brave kid. And she never knew who it was who told her in a whining voice that an oiler who had just come off watch had been leaning on the rail of the deck below the one from which she had fallen. She had shot past him screaming. He it was who had thrown overboard the life-ring and then had telephoned the bridge.

Zorie's next clear recollection was of the woman in white. The woman in white was square-faced, rather grim, and very efficient. She helped her out of her tattered rage—all that remained of her white pique dress. Her stockings were gone.

Once she was in her nightgown and in her bed, Zorie had hysterics. But it wasn't a bad attack. Later,

the nurse told her she had never seen anyone come through such an experience so bravely.

The nurse gave Zorie a sedative and Zorie went to sleep. It was midnight when she awoke. She felt tense. She ached here and there and there was a faint drugged feeling in her brain—the residue of the sedative. Otherwise, her brain felt clear. Everything felt clear. In all her life she had never felt so clear.

Amber Lanning was sitting on the bed across the room. She was looking steadily at Zorie. Except for a ghost of a smile at one corner of her mouth, her face was expressionless. Her eyes were like dark round holes.

When Zorie sat up in bed, Amber's eyes followed her. Zorie swung her feet to the floor. She winced as a pain shot through the small of her back. Her left knee hurt. All her teeth ached a little. And her right hand felt a little numb. But she could stand. And she could walk. She walked across to where Amber sat and she slapped Amber's face.

"There," Zorie said softly. She waited for Amber to do something. She hoped that Amber would resent it.

The smile was gone. Amber compressed her lips and stared at her, but she did nothing and she said nothing.

Zorie reached up to one of the hooks. It was supporting several hangers of Amber's clothes. She took the hangers down and threw them on Amber's bed. She went about the stateroom taking down hangers and throwing them on Amber's bed. When the hooks were emptied, she emptied one of the closets. Its contents she threw on Amber's bed.

"From now on," said Zorie in a calm, assured voice, "this closet is mine."

Amber, sitting on the bed with her clothes all about her, said nothing.

Zorie now dumped the contents of two of the four drawers on Amber's bed. She put the drawers back and said, "From now on, these are mine. You are the first person of a great many who are going to learn that I'm never going to be pushed around again as long as I live. You will either behave yourself in this stateroom or you will get out."

Zorie could see Amber's brain working in her steady brown eyes. Amber was being crossed. She would now make some sort of adjustment, because she was a realist. A realist, Zorie decided, is one who fights others and not one's self.

Amber got up. She picked up a package of cigarettes from the dressing table, leisurely selected one, lighted it. She puffed at it and considered Zorie through the smoke.

"Now that I've smoked you out," said Amber, "shall we be ourselves? I was getting so fed up with your act—and these gosh-awful clothes of yours. I mean the whole picture."

"Who," Zorie asked, "do you think I am?" She was determined to say nothing now or ever to this girl about the attempt at drowning her. She was still as determined as ever to spend the rest of her life, if necessary, in finding out who had thrown her overboard. She would be as smart as they were, and as sly.

Amber shrugged and lifted eyebrows and eyes with a wryly despairing grimace. "All right, my dear," she said. "Keep it up if you want to. I know you're a great actress. God knows I should. I have the greatest respect for you. I envy you more than any woman that ever lived. You have more lives than a cat. Frankly, I think you're a witch. I'll be good."

"We might have a ladies' agreement to that effect," said Zorie.

"Yes!" Amber agreed. "And now, darling, how are you fixed for clothes?"

"I'm not fixed for clothes."

"Nothing in the hold?"

"Nothing."

Amber frowned surprised. "I thought you always traveled with a terrific wardrobe. I'd forgotten that month you spent in Yugoslavia. We're the same size. You can have anything I own."

Who, Zorie wondered, was this woman she resembled? A notorious secret agent? It wouldn't do to ask questions. And at the moment she was enjoying this arrogant girl's awe, her submission. This woman she resembled must be much more ruthless than Amber.

It would be very dangerous, Zorie realized, to permit Amber to keep on assuming that she was the girl they thought she was. Yet it would be useless to deny it. Amber, Mr. Lanning and the sinister Mr. Savoyard wouldn't believe her.

She wasn't afraid. That was the surprising thing. She wasn't afraid of anything any more. She wasn't even afraid of death. A few minutes ago she had accepted death, and death no longer frightened her.

She looked at the jumble of clothes on Amber's bed. There was one evening dress that looked new. It looked as if it had never been worn.

"Tomorrow night," Zorie decided, "I'll wear that dark red gown."

"Certainly, dear! Anything I have is yours!"

The phone rang. Zorie answered it. Paul's crisp voice said, "Zorie! Are you all right?"

"Yes."

(TO BE CONTINUED)

Was Star of Bethlehem A Natural Phenomenon? Astronomers Disagree

Four astronomical hypotheses have evolved from the consideration of the Star of Bethlehem as a natural phenomenon—specifically the possibilities of its having been a meteor, a comet, a new star, or the conjunction of two or more planets.

A meteor is a very transient and local phenomenon. Under no circumstances could a meteor be visible for more than a few seconds and one large enough to attract the attention of ordinary observers would have had its place of impact commemorated.

Tradition credits Hipparchus with having noted, in 134 B. C., a brilliant new star where previously no



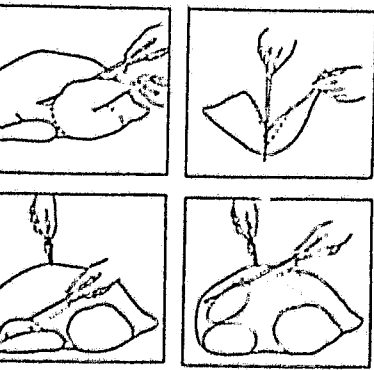
Tree for armed forces in Iceland.

star had been; and since Tycho Brahe discovered his famous nova in 1572, many new stars have been tentatively identified as the Star of Bethlehem.

Jupiter, Mars, Saturn, and Venus are planets visible to the naked eye. Computation has figured that Jupiter, Mars and Saturn were in conjunction in the year 7 to 6 B. C., as such a phenomenon occurs about every 800 years; it is impossible to include Venus and still conform to the biblical account which places the Star in the East since Venus is most conspicuous in the western horizon.

Modern astronomers do not attach much weight to the foregoing hypotheses. Such phenomena would occur too far from the earth to serve as a local guide and, seen in the same direction from any point on the earth's surface, would not stand—as the biblical Star of Bethlehem.

Tips on Carving



Finding the joints without hacking up the bird is the hallmark of a skillful poultry carver. He can stand or sit to his task, whichever is more comfortable. Poultry specialists of the U. S. department of agriculture offer these tips:

Have the platter set on the table with the legs of the roast turkey or chicken pointing either straight toward you or toward your carving hand. A wedge of bread or apple under each side of the bird will steady it for carving.

Make a clean cut between the body and the leg and give a slight twist on the end of the drumstick. If the bird is cooked just right, the leg will then separate easily from the body so you can see the joint and cut through it to the outside.

The leg of a duck or goose is more difficult to disjoint than the leg of a chicken, turkey or guinea. A good carver leaves intact the flab near the backbone called the "oyster." Separate the drumstick and upper joint, and slice the leg meat of a large bird.

Start the wing cut at a spot above the point where the wing meets to join the body. Cut at an angle of about 45 degrees to hit the joint. The wing is sometimes not entirely separated from the carcass but dropped down so as to leave the breast free for slicing.

Since the breast meat of turkeys, chickens and guineas parallel to the outside surface, along the grain of the meat. Cut the breast meat of ducks and geese across the grain of the meat at right angles to the ridge bone, after running the blade of the knife under the flesh to loosen it.

Snapdragon Game

Snapdragon, still played in a modified form in England and America, was a favorite Christmas game in England more than 200 years ago. The original game called for a quantity of raisins to be deposited in a large bowl or dish. Brandy or some other spirit was poured over the fruit and ignited. The bystanders then endeavored to grasp a raisin, by plunging their hands through the flames. A carol called "The Song of Snapdragon" accompanied the game.

SEWING CIRCLE PATTERNS

To Brighten Winter Wardrobe Make This Smart Accessory Set



Princess Froek

FLATTERING to the youthful and lovely figure, this enchanting princess froek is wonderfully simple to sew. Make it in checked taffeta with ric rac to trim, or in a dark crepe as a basic dress and add your favorite jewelry.

Pattern No. 8607 comes in sizes 10, 12, 14, 16, 18 and 20. Size 12, short sleeves, requires 2½ yards of 39-inch material.

ASK ME ANOTHER?

A General Quiz

The Questions

1. How many signers of the Constitution were foreign born?
2. Who kills the bull in a bull fight, the picador, the matador or the torreador?
3. What is a lee shore aboard ship?
4. What American woman fought for the emancipation of woman's clothing and the wearing of trousers?
5. Can you name one prominent American statesman who violently opposed the ratification of the Constitution?
6. What are the only two countries in South America that do not touch Brazil?
7. What is the length of Lake Michigan?
8. "Maryland, My Maryland!" was written by James Randall in the hope of making his state of Maryland take what stand in the Civil war?
9. What is the only crime defined in the Constitution?
10. Who can make the greater speed, an ice skater or a runner?

The Answers

1. Seven.
2. The matador.
3. The shore upon which the wind is blowing.
4. Amalia Jenks Bloomer.
5. Patrick Henry.
6. Ecuador and Chile.
7. About 335 miles.
8. Fight on the Confederate side.
9. Treason.
10. For the distance of 100 yards the speed records for running and for ice skating are exactly the same, 9.4 seconds. In longer distances skaters hold the better records. For instance, for one mile the best running record is 4 minutes, 0.7 seconds, while the best skating record is 2 minutes, 38.2 seconds.

DO YOU SHAVE?

We have limited wartime quotas of our patented, guaranteed, "ZIP-HONE-KITS." For all standard double-edge safety razor blades. Incredibly lengthens blade life. Better shaves. Takes but a moment. Pays for itself over and over. Simple, practical, positive, semi-automatic. "ZIP-HONE-KIT" shavers and strips BARBER MITHON. Send postpaid \$1.25 in money-order or check. Or C. O. D. in U. S. A. for \$1.25 plus small postal collection charge. (No overseas C. O. D. shipments.) Print names and addresses plainly. (No cash or stamps please.) SPECIAL LIMITED OFFER. 5% discount on orders for five or more kits. Pay this way for service friends. National Bank references. ZIP-HONE CO., P. O. Box 767, San Jose, California.

Don't talk—don't spread rumors. Don't cough—don't spread germs. Smith Bros. Cough Drops, Black or Menthol, are still as soothing and delicious as ever—and they still cost only a nickel.

SMITH BROS. COUGH DROPS
BLACK OR MENTHOL—5¢

Accessory Set
YOU'LL find many uses for this clever accessory set. In bright plain woolen it would be very smart for dark suits or slacks. For dressier occasions make it in rayon taffeta. Changes of blouses give you many different costumes.

Pattern No. 8604 comes in sizes 12, 14, 16, 18 and 20. Size 14, waist, requires 1½ yards of 35 or 39-inch material; hat, one size medium, 1 yard; bag, one size, ¾ yard plus ¾ yard for lining and ¾ yard stiffening.

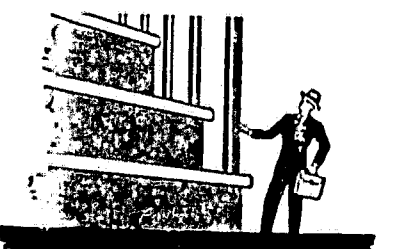
Due to an unusually large demand and current war conditions, slightly more time is required in filling orders for a few of the most popular pattern numbers. Send your order to:

SEWING CIRCLE PATTERN DEPT.
1150 Sixth Ave. New York, N. Y.

Enclose 25 cents in coins for each pattern desired.
Pattern No. Size
Name
Address

Early Camouflage

Camouflage is not a modern war weapon. Shakespeare, in Scene IV, Act V, of "Macbeth," writes: "Let every soldier here him down a bough, and bear't before him; thereby shall we shadow the numbers of our host and make discovery err in report of us."



When Steps look like Mountains!

Your feeling of fatigue may be due to Constipation

Yes, constipation can steal your energy. Take Nature's Remedy (N.R. Tablets). Contains no chemicals, no narcotics, no phenol derivatives. N.R. Tablets are different—act different. Purely vegetable—a combination of 10 vegetable ingredients formulated over 50 years ago. Uncoated or candy coated, their action is dependable, thorough, yet gentle, on millions of N.R.s have proved. Get a 25¢ box today... or larger economy size. Caution: Take only as directed. N.R. TO-NIGHT, TOMORROW ALRIGHT

ALL-VEGETABLE LAXATIVE

Nature's Remedy
N-R TABLETS-NR

ONE WORD SUGGESTION
FOR ACID INDIGESTION—

"TUMS" TUMS

The Oxford County Citizen

The Bethel News 1895
The Rumford Citizen, 1904

Published every Thursday in the interests of the inhabitants of Bethel and the other towns of northwestern Oxford County. Entered as second class matter, May 7, 1904, at the post office at Bethel, Maine. Subscriptions rates, paid in advance: three years, \$5.00; one year, \$2.00; six months, \$1.10; three months, 60c. Phone 100

Carl L. Brown, Publisher

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1944

A SPECIAL HONORS

Those receiving special honors at Gould Academy for the second ranking period are: seniors, Priscilla Carver, Claire Lapham, Priscilla Savage, and Phyllis Tebbette; juniors, Colleen Bennett, Theodore Emery, Margery Howard, Nellie Zapham, Marilyn Noyes, Priscilla Ring, Virginia Scattergood and Dexter Stowell; sophomores, Janice Bowman, Larry Clement, Frances Vinton; freshmen, Sally Adams, Ruth Jenkins, Marvin Kendall and Gertrude Penner.



Christmas trees are again gleaming in the windows! Just about time for us to be thinking of how much we are indebted to you.

And just about time for us to call upon two little words that carry more cheer and good will than all the big words that have ever been coined—

Merry Christmas

CHARLES E. MERRILL
BETHEL LUMBER MARKET



There's a joy in the heart
That sets Christmas apart,
To make it a day of all days.
And may its true peace
And good will never cease
To bless you in manifold ways.

FARWELL & WIGHT



Christmas is here. And once more we find ourselves at a loss for words to express how we feel about your loyalty to us during 1944. But we know you will understand.

We wish for you and your family the best of Merry Christmases, and the best of the happy season can bring in both material and spiritual blessings.

THE SPECIALTY SHOP

HANOVER

Correspondent—Mrs. W. W. Worcester

Several from here attended the sale, chicken pie supper and whist party sponsored by the Ladies Aid, at Rumford Point, Friday night.

Mrs. Emily Dixon has been ill and under the doctor's care but is gaining.

Oscar Dyke is working in Cummings Garage, Rumford.

Miss Susan Martin, Rumford, visited several days last week at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Parker Russell. She called on friends at Rumford Point and here in town, returning to her home Sunday.

Mrs. Harriet Coady is spending the Christmas holiday in Bangor.

Several from here were in Rumford, Saturday, shopping.

Miss Dorothy Elliott, Norway was a recent caller at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Penney.



LOYALTY works both ways. You have been loyal to us, and we are loyal to you.

To you, our friends, who have so helped us to make 1944 successful, we send the friendliest of

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

BETHEL NATIONAL BANK

WEST BETHEL

Mrs. G. E. Mason is enjoying a vacation from her duties at the Connecticut State Teachers College and arrived Saturday to spend the holidays with her husband and his mother at their home in the Bog.

Miss Marilyn Abbott spent the week end at home.

Mrs. Catherine Wilson has returned from a visit with her daughter and family in Shelburne N. H.

Mr. and Mrs. Edmund Smith were in South Paris one day last week on business.

Mrs. Charles Day of Locke Mills visited her daughter, Ruby Rolfe, on Monday.

Several from here including Mrs. Alfred Merrill and Miss Phyllis Morrill were in Lewiston shopping this week.

NEWRY CORNER

Raymond Coulombe, who attends school in Berlin, N. H. is at home for the Christmas vacation.

WEST BETHEL SCHOOL NOTES
Those receiving 100% in spelling last week were: Mary Kneeland, Jane Smith, June Merrill, Howard Rolfe and Arthur Head.

The Primary room will have a Christmas trees at the school house Friday afternoon and the following program will be presented under the direction of the teacher.

Mrs. Mary Billings: Greeting, June Merrill Christmas, Sub Primary & Grade I Away in a Manger, School A Dilemma, June Burris Play, Mrs. Santa Clause Visits a Toy Shop, School Old Santa Claus, Robert Hutchinson

Up on the Housetop, School My, I'm So Good, Eldred Rolfe Santa's Problem, Warren Morrill My Christmas Wish, David Schmidt



AS WE APPROACH the beloved anniversary of a great Event we are reminded again of the many Christmas seasons, we have seen come and go. Time has changed everything except friendship.

We are proud of the fact that we number among our customers many of the town's "oldest inhabitants"—friends who have become dearer to us with the passing years.

Once again we say Merry Christmas to all.

W. J. Wheeler & Co., Inc.
South Paris, Maine

CARD OF THANKS

The members of the American Legion and Auxiliary wish to thank the individuals who gave the eighty-three Christmas gifts for the hospitalized men and women of World War II.

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

December 15 for a two weeks vacation.

The Farm Bureau Christmas party and planning meeting is to be held this week with Mrs. Bertha Davis.

Mrs. Grace Arsenault has suffered another ill turn and is confined to her bed at this writing.

A merry Christmas and a happy healthy new year to one and all.

Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Brink were recent guests of Mr. and Mrs. Chester Chapman.

William Walker, who has been sick for several months is slowly improving.



"... and on earth peace,
good will towards men."

And to each of you who read this message that enraptured happiness which comes only at CHRISTMASTIME

Ernest F. Bisbee
COAL



"THE SILENT STARS..."

In many homes this Christmas, eyes will turn to the stars in a service flag, and hearts will be filled with thoughts of loved ones far from home. Older members of the family will try bravely to make it a day of joy for the youngsters, to forget their own loneliness for a moment in the laughter and gaiety of children.

It would be graceless indeed, for us to wish a "Merry" Christmas to the families of the 245 men and women of

Central Maine Power Company in the Armed Services, and to the thousands of other Maine people whose family circles are broken this holiday season. But—from all our hearts—we do extend the kindest of Christmas greetings. And we join with all the people of Maine—of America—and of the civilized world, in the devout wish that another Christmas may see established for all time "peace on earth, good will toward men."

CENTRAL MAINE
POWER COMPANY



BRYANT POND

Mrs. Inez Whitman, Judith Grover, Tuesday evening, Dec. 19, 1944. Mrs. Whitman's home twelve members meeting will be held at 8 o'clock. The Patriotic Club planned a Christmas night. Refreshments, cookies and tea were served by Mrs. Whitman and Mrs. Grover.

Schools closed for two weeks.

Mrs. Alice Chute and Mrs. Wolcott were in Saturday.

Mrs. Chester Bean, the War Chest Drive of Woodstock announced that the town had a quota of \$425 by raising of \$471.35.

Mrs. Minnie Jordan, Swan, Leroy Smith and Mr. Rowe have been listed.

At the Locke Mills Church Services Sunday the Misses Alice Chute, Wolcott sang the poem "Since Jesus took my life me with a song."

Mrs. Homer Farrington, Ramona and Mr. Whitman and Arlene in Rumford shopping evening.

Mrs. Lillian Young of a recent dinner guest of Chute and Miss Orissa.

SONGO POND

Mr. and Mrs. Leon Miller were in Rumford shopping.

Seldon Grover was Monday, shopping.

Callers at Hollis Grindle were Bee Osgood, L. and Bob Chapman.

Leon Millett hauled wood Maud Grindle one day recently.

A. B. Kimball bought of Walter Lord, North V.

Mrs. Maud Grindle and spent the week end at Green's, North Waterford.

Mr. and Mrs. Ray Grindle were at Charles Betel, recently.

Mr. and Mrs. Ray Jewellers at Leslie Kimball's Christmas Sunday.

Leslie Kimball's family had colds.

Bob Chapman hauled A. B. Kimball Tuesday.

Leslie Kimball and Kimball were in Dixfield last week on business.

Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Betel, were at his father Kimball's Sunday.

At this season let ourselves to see if goodness still survives in combination the human heart in his hands nation. Let Christmas transform us.

May we all greetings to finding them

Roberts F.

Hancock

Christ

GRE

At Christmas per

happ more than at any

other time in the year

we realize what it means

to be an American—to

worship as we please, to

go about our daily pur

suits unfettered,

to pay time out to

take homage to

the beautiful

Bryant's

BRYANT POND

Mrs Inez Whitman, Correspondent
Judith Grover Tent No 17 met Tuesday evening, Dec. 11th at Mrs Inez Whitman's home. There were twelve members present. Next meeting will be election of officers. The Patriotic Instructor has planned a Christmas tree for that night. Refreshments of sandwiches, cookies and tea were served by Bessie Andrews and Inez Whitman.

Schools closed Friday night for two weeks.

Miss Alice Chute and Miss Orissa Wolcott were in Berlin, N. H., Saturday.

Mrs Chester Bean, chairman of the War Chest Drive for the Town of Woodstock announced Dec. 15 that the town had gone over their quota of \$425 by raising the sum of \$471.35.

Mrs Minnie Jordan, Kenneth Swan, Leroy Smith and Mrs Leo M. Rowe have been on the sick list.

At the Locke Mills Community Church Services Sunday, Dec 10th the Misses Alice Chute and Orissa Wolcott sang the popular duet, "Since Jesus took my burdens and left me with a song."

Mrs Homer Farnum and daughter, Ramona, and Misses Clara Whitman and Arlene Swan were in Rumford shopping Monday evening.

Mrs Lillian Young of Bethel was a recent dinner guest of Miss Alice Chute and Miss Orissa Wolcott.

SONGO POND

Mr and Mrs Leon Millett and son Russell were in Rumford Monday shopping.

Seldon Grover was in Bethel Monday, shopping.

Callers at Hollis Grindles' Monday were Bee Osgood, Leroy Buck and Bob Chapman.

Leon Millett hauled wood for Mrs Maud Grindle one day recently.

A. B. Kimball bought two cows of Walter Lord, North Waterford, recently.

Mrs Maud Grindle and Evelyn spent the week end at Irving Green's, North Waterford.

Mr and Mrs Hollis Grindle and Gloria were at Charles Bryant's, Bethel, recently.

Mr and Mrs Ray Jewel were callers at Leslie Kimball's and Bob Chapman's Sunday.

Leslie Kimball's family are having bad colds.

Bob Chapman hauled birch for A. B. Kimball Tuesday.

Leslie Kimball and Laurence Kimball were in Dixfield one day last week on business.

Mr and Mrs Leonard Kimball, Bethel, were at his father's A. B. Kimball's Sunday.

EAST BETHEL

Robert Hastings was in Orono Thursday and Friday of last week.

Mrs John Irvine entertained Mr and Mrs Rodney Howe, Stanley Howe at a dinner party in honor of Mrs Howe's birthday, Wednesday evening.

Mr and Mrs O. B. Farwell were in Rumford Friday to meet their daughter, Miss Deborah Farwell, who is enjoying a vacation from Farmington Normal School.

Malcolm Farwell spent the week end with his parents, Mr and Mrs O. B. Farwell.

Mr and Mrs Almon Coolidge and family have moved from Edgarc Coolidge's to the home of Edgar Coolidge.

Mrs Leland Coolidge began last week to work in the E. L. Tebbett's mill at Locke Mills.

Virginia Hastings was the guest of friends at Locke Mills Friday night.

Mary Alice Hastings spent Friday night with Ann Newmarker.

Mr and Mrs J. C. Bartlett, Shirley Bartlett, Mrs Jorgen Olson, and children and Mrs Helen Newmarker were in Rumford Saturday.

Mr and Mrs L. D. Kimball of Lewiston were Sunday guests of Mrs John Howe and family.

Mrs May Kimball is a guest of her brother, W. G. Holt and family.

Mrs Rhoda Mackay and Lewis Powers of Norway were at S. D. Harrington's Sunday.

Mrs Leslie Noyes spent Friday with her sister, Mrs Burton Abbott who has been ill.

Little Betty Swan spent the week end with her grandmother, Mrs Eva Swan at Locke Mills.

Albert Foster was home from Camp Devens over the week end.

Dorothy Bartlett was ill with asthma Sunday.

Mrs Arthur Jordan and Mrs Earl Swinton of Rumford were at Mr and Mrs Irwin Farrar's Sunday afternoon. Sonja Swinton who had been a guest of her grandparents several days as Mrs Jordan's baby was ill with pneumonia.

Mr and Mrs Floyd Coolidge and son, Elton were at Mr and Mrs Edgar Coolidge's one day last week.

NOTICE OF LOST BANK BOOK
Notice is hereby given that the Bethel Savings Bank has been notified that book of deposit issued by said bank and numbered 5607 has been destroyed or lost and it is desired that a new book of deposit be issued.

BETHEL SAVINGS BANK
By Fred F. Bean, Treas.
Bethel, Maine

WEST PARIS

Mrs. Geneva Tuell, Correspondent
The West Paris 4-H Club had a Christmas Party, Dec. 9, 1944. Everyone received a present. An interesting program was sponsored by Pauline Baker and Jane Day. Refreshments were served after the party.

At the First Universalist Church there will be a special Christmas program on Sunday morning the 24th. Sermon subject by the Rev. Eleanor B. Forbes, Christ in You the Hope of Glory. Music by choir of 15 singers. Soloists, Arline Farr Hazel Perham and Walter Inman. Chorus of 30 young people will join in carols and responses. Duet, A Wondrous Song by Elaine and Jeanie Lamb. Closing Christmas songs by Primary Sunday School children. Friday evening the Sunday school will hold a Christmas family supper in the church and school and invited guests are expected to attend. A Christmas tree and program will follow the supper.



Christmas Cheer to All!

★ Holly and mistletoe, soft lights and Christmas trees, gifts that mean an outpouring of the spirit. Santa Claus is coming!

With gratitude for your continued friendship we pause during this busy Christmas season of 1944 to wish you the happiest of Christmas to all.

W. E. BOSSERMAN

Mrs Miriam Mayblom was hostess to the Bates Literary Club Friday afternoon. The roll call was answered by Christmas quotations and a book review of The Robe written by Mrs Ella Nicolson and read by Mrs Beatrice Dymont completed a very fine program. Delicious refreshments were served by the hostess and the decorations were in harmony with the Christmas season.

Miss Rachel Dunham, daughter of Mrs Elizabeth Dunham underwent an appendectomy at the Rumford Community Hospital Monday forenoon.

Mr and Mrs Clayton Churchill and Mr and Mrs Simeon Farr's out of town Christmas guests will be Mr and Mrs Ralph Knightly, son and daughter, Mr and Mrs William Smith and three sons all of South Paris.

Children's Wheelbarrows
Steel Body — Wood Wheel
were \$2.50 — NOW \$2.00

Toy Peg Bench
with Pegs and Mallet
was \$2.50 — NOW \$2.00

Doll Beds
were \$1.50 — NOW \$1.29

Children's Chairs
Solid and Durable
\$2.25

MANY OTHER TOYS AND DOLLS
at
BROWN'S VARIETY STORE
ALSO

Gifts for All the Family

Christmas Greetings TO OUR FRIENDS

May yours be "the Joy that blooms from yesterday's remembrance, the Peace that surpasses today's understanding, the Hope that springs from Confidence in tomorrow."

ANNIE L. WILLEY
LILLIAN M. STEARNS



Jingle bells, jingle bells,
Jingle all the way,
Oh what fun it is to ride
In a one-horse open sleigh!

We have much to be thankful for this Christmas, and we want to express our thanks to you.
May this Christmas season of 1944 be an especially happy one for you.

Gould Academy
Elwood F. Ireland, Headmaster



At this season we should all subject to re-examination, to see if good fellowship and kindness still survive as a practical combination to bring happiness to the human heart. Each of us holds in his hands the key to this combination. Let us use it during this Christmas season of 1944, to help transform dreams into realities.

May we add our glad Christmas greetings to the many which are finding their way to you?

Roberts Furniture Store
Hanover, Maine



★ At Christmas perhaps more than at any other time in the year we realize what it means to be an American—to worship as we please, to go about our daily pursuits unfettered, to take time out to pay homage to the beautiful myth of Santa Claus.

★ And at Christmas the members of this organization realize particularly what your patronage has meant to us, and we take this opportunity to thank you while wishing you all a most Merry Christmas.

Bryant's Market

How to help lick our No. 1 War-time Shortage

It is staggering to realize that our most serious war-time shortage is no longer tin or aluminum or rubber—but pulpwood. You may look all around you at the spruce and fir which blanket our hills and wonder how there could possibly be a scarcity of anything so plentiful. Of course there is plenty of pulpwood. The problem is manpower.

What can you do?

If you want to see this war won—quickly. If you want to get those boys back home—alive and soon—there is nothing you could do that would help more than getting some of that much-needed pulpwood into the mills.

If you have any suitable woodland of your own; if you can cut and haul pulpwood from someone else's land; if you can take even a part-time job in the woods, do what you can.

Where does all the pulpwood go?

Did you ever stop to think that every shot is loaded with explosives made from pulpwood; packed for overseas shipment in special waterproof, paper-board containers; aimed by a paper map; and fired according to paper orders. Multiply that by every other item of supply and equipment and you begin to realize why wood pulp is so essential to winning the war.

U.S. VICTORY PULPWOOD CAMPAIGN

by Newspaper Pulpwood Committee ★ American Newspaper Publishers Association

ESPECIALLY NEEDED NOW! SPRUCE FIR

Intricate, Costly Watches Are Made for Collectors

Several modern watches made for collectors have required as long as eight years to design and manufacture, and have cost as much as \$15,000, says Collier's.

Besides a dozen time and calendar dials, they contain such meteorological instruments as a thermometer, hygrometer, barometer and altimeter, and such celestial charts as the one that shows the positions of the visible constellations at every hour.

South Americans Celebrate Feast in Picturesque Way

The children of Latin America learn about Santa Claus only through the radio programs from North America. Yet Christmas for them is not lacking in gaiety and not lacking in gifts.

But the beneficent visitor, instead of being the jolly, rotund Kris Kringle, is "El Nino Dios—the Christ Child—assisted by Los Reyes Magos—the Magi Kings.

While the children of North America are hanging up their stockings on Christmas eve, their neighbors below the Rio Grande are settling out carefully made little beds of grass or straw, which El Nino Dios will fill with toys and candy during the night.

This is not universal, however. In some countries the night for gifts is January 5, for that is the night Los Reyes Magos ride swiftly from house to house with camels laden with goods for good little chilquillos.

The yule season in Mexico and many other Hispanic countries generally begins on December 15 and continues to January 6, when presents are exchanged in token of the gifts brought to the Christ Child by the Three Wise Men.

In fact, there is sometimes a colorful addition of bullfights, rodeos and folk dances.

Symbolizing the Nativity, (December 15 to January 6) there are the traditional Nacimientos and Posadas. Nacimiento means "birth," and in the intimacy of every home a space is made ready for the colorful little display which symbolizes the Nativity. Every detail of the Palestinian countryside is faithfully depicted, with sand, pebbles, grass and twigs. A tiny replica of the stable at Bethlehem is set up, and surrounded with miniature cows and other animals.

At some time between December 15 and New Year's day, every Mexican family holds a Posada. Members of the family and their friends gather in the patio and sing Villancicos, or old Spanish Christmas carols, and march around the patio in procession, to commemorate the journey of the Three Wise Men to Bethlehem.

"Though the postmen of Latin America are not so heavily burdened as they are here, the greeting on everyone's lips is the same as ours—"Felices Pascuas y Buen Año Nuevo!"

There will be no window decoration shortage.



There will be no window decoration shortage.

With sand, pebbles, grass and twigs. A tiny replica of the stable at Bethlehem is set up, and surrounded with miniature cows and other animals.

At some time between December 15 and New Year's day, every Mexican family holds a Posada. Members of the family and their friends gather in the patio and sing Villancicos, or old Spanish Christmas carols, and march around the patio in procession, to commemorate the journey of the Three Wise Men to Bethlehem.

"Though the postmen of Latin America are not so heavily burdened as they are here, the greeting on everyone's lips is the same as ours—"Felices Pascuas y Buen Año Nuevo!"

First Yule Card Printed in 1846

The first Christmas card, properly so-called, was produced in England in 1846 as the result of a nobleman's suggestion.

Sir Henry Cole conceived the idea when overwhelmed by the thought of having to pen personal greetings of the season to his many friends and acquaintances. This first card, of which about 1,000 copies were sold, was produced in black and white; the drawing thereon was by J. C. Horsley and was hand-colored. The idea did not really "catch on" until about 1864 and several years passed before the custom of sending Christmas cards was taken up by British royalty.

Monopoly of the American Christmas card market was enjoyed by Marcus Ward and Company of London for a few years following their introduction into the United States during the 1870's. In 1890 Louis L. Prang and Company of Boston entered into competition with the English firm. Prang and Company offered \$2,000 in prizes for the best designs submitted and nearly 600 entries were received, thus launching the modern industry which offers Christmas cards of almost endless varieties to fit every pocketbook.

Send that Christmas card today!

To bind up the wounds of bitterness, make fast the moorings of friendship, and echo the glorious promise of peace.

Ancient Druids First to Hang Evergreens, Mistletoe

The Druids of ancient Britain started the hanging of evergreens, holly and mistletoe at Christmas. They are the oldest existing Christmas rites. December 25 was a holy night in pre-Roman Britain. They called it the "Mother's Night," and it was part of their ceremonies of Iol, or Yule, meaning a wheel, which symbolized the revolution of the seasons.



Buffet Style Is Ideal for New Year's Entertaining



Waffles and sausage, an old-fashioned favorite, will help you ring the old year out and New Year in with proper style.

This hasn't been such a bad year, has it? And as we look forward to the next one, we hope for many better things. It's fitting then to usher the new one in with good cheer and hope, and simple but good food to celebrate the occasion.

Whether you're just having your own family in or friends over to welcome the New Year, it should be done in style. Refreshments need not be elaborate but they should be decorated to be in tune with the season.

Here are some sample menus to help you in deciding what to have. They are designed to fit your food budget:

- New Year's Eve Snack I.**
Buckwheat Cakes Coffee
Cranberry Conserve Assorted Fruit Plate
Snack Suggestion II.
Waffles and Pork Sausages
Syrup Chilled Pears
Snack Suggestion III.
Spaghetti With Chicken Livers
Garlic Bread Tossed Salad
Lemon Snow With Custard Sauce
Snack Suggestion IV.
Welsh Rarebit on Toast
Molded Fruit Salad
Assorted Relishes
Fruit Cake Coffee
Snack Suggestion V.
Cold Sliced Turkey and Ham
Rye Bread Butter Relish
Avocado-Grapefruit Salad
Assorted Cookies Beverage

Guests for a New Year's eve supper will be happy to help themselves from a buffet as informality prevails at the occasion. Set up the waffle iron with a pitcher of batter; or, if you are having a hot

dish like Welsh Rarebit or Spaghetti, it can be kept warm in a hot dish or at least on a hot platter. Guests won't mind going into the kitchen for precious seconds.

The recipe round-up for this event has a star-studded collection of dishes you'll want.

- Waffles.**
2 cups sifted flour
3 tablespoons baking powder
1 cup milk
4 tablespoons melted butter
3/4 teaspoon salt
3 eggs

Sift together the dry ingredients. Add egg yolks, beaten and mixed with milk, then the melted butter. Fold in egg whites, beaten stiff. Bake in waffle maker and serve with butter and hot syrup.

Cooking Sausages.
To cook pork sausage so that it will be plump, juicy and tender, lay the sausages in a heavy skillet

and cook over low flame, turning them occasionally and pouring off fat as it accumulates.

To broil: Place strips on broiler rack or pan about 3 to 3 1/2 inches below moderate heat. Turn when top is lightly crisped, broiling about 2 1/2 minutes to each side.

To bake: Lay strips in shallow pan, allowing fat edges to overlap the lean edges. Place on top shelf of oven set at 400 degrees. Bake without turning for 12 to 15 minutes until crisp.

LYNN SAYS:

Here's How To Do: If you're serving bacon, remember it requires slow cooking, careful watching and removal from the heat when it's crisp but not brittle.

To pan-fry bacon: Lay strips in a cold frying pan and cook over low flame, turning them occasionally and pouring off fat as it accumulates.

To broil: Place strips on broiler rack or pan about 3 to 3 1/2 inches below moderate heat. Turn when top is lightly crisped, broiling about 2 1/2 minutes to each side.

To bake: Lay strips in shallow pan, allowing fat edges to overlap the lean edges. Place on top shelf of oven set at 400 degrees. Bake without turning for 12 to 15 minutes until crisp.

with a small amount of water. Bring them gently to a boil and let them boil for several minutes, until all the water is cooked away. Then let the sausages brown, turning on all sides so they will have an even color. Sausages cooked like this will be done thoroughly with their flavor fully developed. They will not have lost the plumpness that is so attractive when they are served.

Spaghetti With Chicken Livers.
(Serves 6 to 8)

- 1/2 pound spaghetti
2 tablespoons shortening
1 onion
2 cups canned tomatoes or 1 can tomato soup
1/4 teaspoon pepper
1/4 pound grated American cheese
1/4 pound fresh mushrooms
1 pound chicken livers
1 teaspoon salt

Cook spaghetti in boiling, salted water until tender. Drain and rinse in cold water.

Heat fat in skillet and brown finely cut onion in it. Add spaghetti, tomatoes, salt and cheese. Cook slowly until well blended. Serve in a casserole or on a platter, well garnished with fried mushrooms and sautéed chicken livers.

Molded Fruit Salad.
(Serves 8)

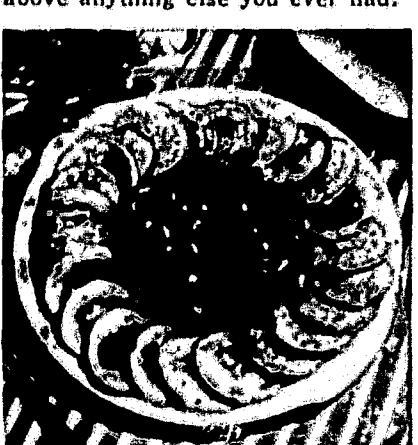
- 1 package lemon-flavored gelatin
1 cup hot water
1 cup maraschino cherry juice and water
1 cup sliced, seeded grapes
2 pears, peeled and sliced
1/4 cup maraschino cherries, sliced
1/4 cup finely minced celery
1 pink grapefruit, peeled and sectioned

Dissolve gelatin in hot water. Add cold cherry juice and water. Let cool. When slightly thickened fold in fruit and pour into a mold. Let chill until firm. Unmold on lettuce and garnish with clusters of grapes in pear halves. Serve with sour cream dressing.

Welsh Rarebit.
(Serves 6)
2 tablespoons butter
3/4 teaspoon salt
3/4 pound cheese, cubed
1/4 teaspoon soda
Dash of cayenne
1 egg
3/4 cup thin cream

Melt butter in top of double boiler and then add cheese. Stir and cook until cheese is melted. Add beaten egg, seasonings, soda and cream. Stir constantly until smooth and thick, then serve over toast points, garnished with parsley.

There's nothing better than a chewy cookie for nibbling after the main dish has been heavy. In fact, many people would rather have a good cookie than anything else to top off the snack. You'll like these cookies that are taste tempters above anything else you ever had:



Cranberry Jelly and Pancakes offer simple but delicious fare for the New Year eve celebration. It saves fuss and dishes.

Dream Bars.
1/4 cup butter or substitute
1/4 cup brown sugar
1 cup sifted flour

Mix above ingredients and pat into a shallow pan. Bake in a moderate oven 15 minutes.

Second mixture:
2 eggs
1 cup brown sugar
1 teaspoon vanilla
2 tablespoons flour
3/4 teaspoon baking powder
3/4 teaspoon salt
1 1/2 cups coconut
1 cup nuts

Beat the eggs, add sugar and vanilla. Blend in dry ingredients, coconut and nuts. Pour mixture on top of first baked mixture and bake in a moderate oven for 20 minutes. When cooled slightly, add:

Third mixture:
1/2 cup powdered sugar
2 tablespoons butter or substitute
Grated rind of 1 orange
Orange juice

Cream sugar and butter. Add orange rind and enough juice to moisten to spreading consistency. Spread on top of cookie mixture and then cut cookies into bars.

Get the most from your meat! Get your meat roasting chart from Miss Lynn Chambers by writing to her in care of Western Newspaper Union, 216 South Dearborn Street, Chicago 4, Ill. Please send a stamped, self-addressed envelope for your reply.

Released by Western Newspaper Union.

SEWING CIRCLE NEEDLECRAFT

Crocheted Apron Has Eye-Appeal



AN attention-getter, this bit of feminine frivolity. A crocheted apron in simple pattern stitch, finished with a crocheted ruffle.

An apron you can make in double-quick time; inexpensive. Pattern 541 contains crocheted directions for apron; stitches.

For this pattern send 15 cents in coins, your name, address and the pattern number.

Sponges Grow in Brilliant Colors on Bed of Ocean

The sponge in your bathroom is very little like the sponge growing on the ocean bed, for it has to be processed and dried before it can be used. On the ocean bed, sponges grow in brilliant colors, yellow, green, orange, purple, and even black. Each species has its own shape. Sizes vary from that of a pea to monsters more than ten feet across.

It is by no means an inanimate growth, for every sponge is covered by living substances which draw nutriment by suction from the water, and the deeper they lie beneath the surface the better and stronger they grow.

Growth is slow, however, and the average complete sponge you use to wash your face takes about four years to reach maturity.

Due to an unusually large demand and current war conditions, slightly more time is required in filling orders for a few of the most popular pattern numbers.

Sewing Circle Needlecraft Dept.
82 Eighth Ave. New York
Enclose 15 cents for Pattern
No. _____
Name _____
Address _____

Upset Stomach

Believed in 5 minutes or double money back. When excess stomach acid causes painful, suffocating gas, sour stomach and heartburn, doctors usually prescribe the fastest-acting medicine known for symptomatic relief—medicines like these in Bell's Tablets. No laxative. Bell's brings comfort in a 5 minute or double your money back on return of bottle to us. 50¢ at all druggists.

it's
"YOUR AMERICA"

The saga of a mighty Nation—its industries, famous personalities and everyday citizens told with Drama and Music.

SUNDAYS 4 P. M.

Sponsored by

★ UNION PACIFIC R. R. ★

Over the

★ YANKEE NETWORK ★

★ IN NEW ENGLAND ★

★

★

★

★

★

★

★

★

★

★

★

★

★

★

★

★

★

★

★

★

★

★

★

★

★

★

★

★

★

★

★

★

★

★

★

★

★

★

Making Doll Furniture

HERE is miniature carefully scaled actual size pieces. A will love the sturdy upholstered sofa and chair with matching. They are easy to make. It is a flower print. The dining room furniture made of straight blocks of wood are smartly up.



bright oilcloth to simulate. The bed with upholstered piece is especially glad the dainty dressing table matching stool made of spool with padded top skirt. The nursery is also furnished with attractive made from things you hand.

NOTE—Pattern 274 gives patterns or dimensions for making. Patterns and also given for the lamps and accessories. Pattern 273 gives a plan for making the doll house. Patterns each. Send direct to:

MRS. RUTH WYETH S. Bedford Hills

Enclose 15 cents for each order.

Name _____

Address _____

Address _____

Address _____

Address _____

Address _____

Address _____

Address _____

Address _____

Address _____

Address _____

Address _____

Address _____

Address _____

Address _____

Address _____

Address _____

Address _____

Address _____

Address _____

Address _____

Address _____

Address _____

Address _____

Address _____

Address _____

Address _____

Address _____

Address _____

Address _____

Address _____

Address _____

Address _____

Address _____

Address _____

Address _____

Address _____

Address _____

Address _____

Address _____

Address _____

Address _____

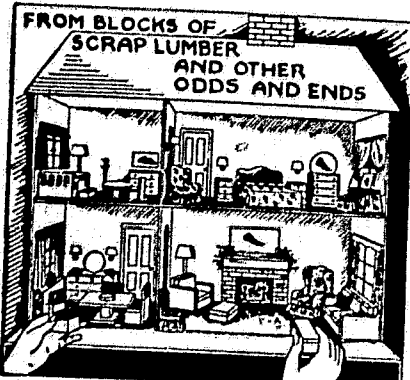
Address _____

Address _____

Making Doll House Furniture Is Fun

HERE is miniature furniture all carefully scaled to reproduce actual size pieces. Any little girl will love the sturdy five-inch-long upholstered sofa and the lounge chair with matching ottoman. They are easy to make, too, and so is the chair. It is covered with a flower print.

The dining room furniture is all made of straight blocks but the chairs are smartly upholstered in



bright oilcloth to simulate leather. The bed with upholstered head piece is especially glamorous and the dainty dressing table has a matching stool made of half of a spool with padded top and full skirt. The nursery is also well furnished with attractive pieces made from things you have on hand.

NOTE—Pattern 274 gives actual-size patterns or dimensions for all the pieces of this furniture with illustrated directions for making. Patterns and directions are also given for the lamps and other accessories. Pattern 273 gives all directions for making the doll house. Patterns are 15 cents each. Send direct to:

MRS. RUTH WYETH SPEARS
Bedford Hills New York
Drawer 10
Enclose 15 cents for each pattern ordered.
Name.....
Address.....

CLASSIFIED DEPARTMENT

ELECTRIC HEATERS

ELECTRIC HEATERS
No. 1011. Heavy duty, reconditioned, movable, 110 volt electric heater, 2700 in. any receptacle. One with heat average bedroom. Price \$28.75. Express prepaid. ELLIOTT OIL CO., Pine Bluff, Ark.
"Fine Bluff" Wants Small Industries.

BATTERIES

BATTERIES—All sizes for farm lighting plants. Shipment from stock. Engine-driven generators available. Dole and Westinghouse light plant parts. Over 25 years in this business. United States Motors Corporation, Alan Patton, Hanover, Mass.

FILMS

NEW CASTLE FILMS
BELLES of the South Sea; Wing, Claw and Fork; PARIS FURBERATED; PUDDY THE PUP CARTOONS; 8 MM. 16 MM. and sound cartoons in stock. Call or write for New Castle film orders filled immediately.
FRANK LANE & CO.
8 Little Bldg., Hubbard 3322
Boston Mass.

FILM SERVICE

FILMS DEVELOPED with a Vellox class 35 or 16 Vellox glossy prints 30c. Reprints 20c each. One day service guaranteed. Send for mailing envelope.
D. J. McFALLIN
The Photo Mart, Dept. W, Millard, Conn.

PUPPIES WANTED

Wanted Puppies—Bostons, Wires, Fox Terriers, Spaniels, Scotchies, other breeds. Give age, breed, price, picture in letter. Mrs. J. A. Stahl, 98 Whitler St., Springfield 8, Mass.

MAGAZINES

The Pigeon Loft, Sherman Oaks, Calif., new monthly, authentic info. on money, racing, utility pigeons. \$1 year, sample 5c.

FUR COATS

CHAZZ? Yes but we are going to give every woman reader of this ad a chance to get a fur coat absolutely free. Write for free catalogue and details now.
D. J. McFALLIN
602 Bryant Ave. No., Minneapolis, Minn.

Vibrationless Plane
The jet-propelled plane flies so smoothly that a vibrator is required on the instrument panel to keep the dial needles free of stickiness.

RIPANS
For Constipation • Sour Stomach • Dyspepsia • Headache • Heartburn • Biliousness or Distressing Gas, use time-tested RIPANS Tablets. Contains 6 doctor-prescribed medicines. Soothes, does not grip. Quickly relieves and aids elimination. At your druggist 10c, 35c and 75c.

AT FIRST SIGN OF A
COLD
USE 666
Cold Preparations as directed
WNU-2 51-14

SAVE YOUR SCRAP
TO HELP GAIN
VICTORY
Old METAL, RAGS,
RUBBER and PAPER

Ernie Pyle's Slant on the War:

GIs Turn Back to Cave-Like Living in Tunisia

All Comforts Missing but Men Carry On Under Trying Conditions

By Ernie Pyle

(Editor's Note): This dispatch was written and first published when Pyle was with the GIs during the air battles in French North Africa. He is now on his way to cover the Pacific war zones.

THE TUNISIAN FRONT.—It must be hard for you folks at home to conceive how our troops right at the front actually live. In fact it is hard to describe it to you even when I'm among them, living in somewhat the same way they are.

You can scarcely credit the fact that human beings—the same people you've known all your life—could adjust themselves so accepting to a type of living that is only slightly above the cave-man stage.

Some of our troops came directly to the Tunisian front after the original occupation of North and West Africa. They have been here ever since. They have not slept in a bed for months. They've lived through this vicious winter sleeping outdoors on the ground.

They haven't been paid in three months. They have been on British rations most of the time, and British rations, though good, get mighty tiresome.

They never take off their clothes at night, except their shoes. They don't get a bath oftener than once a month. One small detachment acquired lice and had to be fumigated, but all the rest have escaped so far. They move so frequently they don't attempt to put in many home touches, as the men do at the more permanent camps toward the rear. Very few of the front-line troops have ever had any leave. They never go to town for an evening's fun. They work all the time.

Nobody keeps track of the days or weeks. I'll wager that 90 per cent of our front-line troops never know when Sunday comes.

Furthermore, the old traditional differences between day and night have almost ceased to exist. Night-time no longer necessarily means rest, nor daytime work. Often it's just reversed. The bulk of our conveying of supplies and shifting of troops is done at night. The soldiers are accustomed to traveling all night, sometimes three or four nights in a row. Irregularity of sleep becomes normal. One soldier told me he once went three days and nights without sleep.

You see men sleeping anywhere, anytime. The other day I saw a soldier asleep in blankets under an olive tree at two in the afternoon. A few feet away a full colonel was sleeping soundly on the ground. In battle you just go until you drop.

War Hardens Men.
The war coarsens most people. You live rough and talk rough, and if you didn't toughen up inside you simply wouldn't be able to take it.

An officer friend of mine, Lieut. Lennie Bessman of Milwaukee, was telling me two incidents of a recent battle that touched him deeply. One evening he and another officer came up to a tiny farmhouse, which was apparently empty. To be on the safe side he called out "Who's there?" before going in. The answer came back:

"Captain Blank, and who the hell wants to know?"
They went in and found the captain, his clothes covered with blood, heating a can of rations over a gasoline flame. They asked if they could stay all night with him. He said he didn't give a damn. They started to throw their blankets down, and the captain said:

"Look out for that man over there."

There was a dead soldier lying in a corner.
The captain was cooking his supper and preparing to stay all night alone in that same room. The flood and fury of death about him that day had left him utterly indifferent both to the companionship of the living and the presence of the dead.

The other incident was just the opposite. Another captain happened to be standing beside Bessman. It was just at dusk and they were on the desert. The night chill was coming down. The captain looked to the far horizon and said, sort of to himself:

"You fight all day here in the desert and what's the end of it all? Night just closes down over you and chokes you."

A little later Bessman got out a partly filled bottle of gin he had with him and asked this same sensitive captain if he'd like a drink. The captain didn't even reach out his hand. He simply answered:

"Have you got enough for my men too?"

He wouldn't take a drink himself unless the enlisted men under him could have some.
All officers are not like that, but the battlefield does produce a brotherhood. The common bond of death draws humans toward each other over the artificial barrier of rank.

After a few weeks of front-line living your whole perspective on the niceties and necessities of life changes.

You used to be sore when you couldn't get a taxi. Now you've

struck gold when you find a spot where you can lie down out of the wind.

Even my own perspective has changed, and as a correspondent I've had only the barest taste of the rough life. For a lifetime I have bathed with becoming regularity, and I thought the world would come to an end unless I changed my socks every day. Now I have just had my first bath in a month, and I go two weeks at a time without even taking off my socks. Oddly enough, it doesn't seem to make much difference.

The other day I had to laugh at myself over a little emotion I experienced. We had arrived one evening at a new front-line headquarters. It was centered around a Tunisian farmhouse, as practically all command posts are.

Comfort on Ground.
Soldiers and officers alike were sleeping just anywhere they could—in trucks, under trees, in the barn and chicken houses. It was cold and damp, as usual.

Nobody tells a correspondent where to sleep or what to do when he is gypsying around the front. He shifts for himself. So I nosed around and found a place to sleep. It was under a big French grain wagon sitting in the barnlot.

Some soldiers had found several strips of corrugated tin roofing and set them around three sides of the wagon, making walls. The wagon bed formed a roof overhead. They had brought straw from a nearby stack and put it on the ground under the wagon. There we threw our bedding rolls.

It was the coldest place I'd slept in for a week. It had two magnificent features—the ground was dry, and the wind was cut off.

I was so pleased at finding such a wonderful place that I could feel my general spirits go up like an elevator.

When the detachment got orders to move the next day I felt a genuine regret at leaving this little haven. And to think after all it was only some pitiful straw on the hard ground under a wagon.

Little things come to mean so much in wartime.

At this front I'm the only person I know who has a can-opener, and it's in constant demand. I have to carry it in my coverall pocket to keep it from being stolen.

Stealing ceases to be just stealing when something you need badly is taken, but I wouldn't put it past myself under favorable circumstances.

I have a pair of fingernail scissors with me, and one day recently I lent it six times to soldiers who were just passing and asked if I had any nail clippers or scissors. Cold water and cold weather are hard on soldiers' hands. Their fingers get hard and crack around the nails. Night after night I've lain awake because my fingers had split back from the nail and throbbled with pain.

Our troops do manage to look fairly clean and presentable, even though sanitary facilities are skimpy. The Air Forces allow their soldiers to grow beards, but the rest of the army doesn't. Consequently the men have to shave regardless of how inconvenient it may be.

I checked in at the intelligence tent to see what was going on, and found that things were dying down with the coming of dusk. So I pitched my tent and went to bed.

Next morning I got up before day light and caught a ride, just after sunrise, with two officers going to the new position of our forward command post.

History and Legend of Trees and Cribbs



Christmas trees and cribbs, within respective spheres of influence, provide focal points for observances of the season.

Legendarily, the Christ Child blessed the huge pine which sheltered the Holy Family during the flight into Egypt.

A strange child was received hospitably into the hut of a poor wood cutter who lived on the edge of a great forest. At midnight the family was awakened: looking out of the window, they beheld the little stranger clad in gleaming radiance and surrounded by a choir of angels; the fir tree beneath the window was covered with silver nuts and lights, apples and threads of gold; and the Child revealed his identity:

"I am the Christing, bringing happiness to good children. This fir tree shall be my emblem."

The Druids were worshippers of Thor to whom the Thunder Oak was sacred. St. Wilfred, standing amid his Christian converts, felled the oak to symbolize the severance of all connections with heathen Druid rites. The old tree split into four pieces as it fell and, from its very center, a young fir tree pointed skyward.

"This young tree," said Wilfred, "shall be your Holy tree tonight. Let it be called the tree of the Christ Child; gather about it, not in the woodlot, but in your own homes. There it will shelter no deeds of blood but shall be surrounded with loving gifts and rites of kindness."

What the Christmas tree is to northern countries, the crib is to southern Europe and Catholic countries.

Owing to the widespread inability

of the masses to read and the prevailing lack of books during the middle ages, the Bible was frequently interpreted by literal representation. In 1223 St. Francis of Assisi, hoping to inspire greater religious fervor among the faithful, received special permission from the Pope to present a tableau of the Nativity scene.

On Christmas eve of that year in Greccio, Italy, representatives of the Wise Men and other biblical characters (a young mother laid her "bambino" in the manger), real, live animals, sheep and oxen, finally obedient after hours of tugging and shoving, took their place within the channel of the village church.

This first crib was such an immediate sensation that the presentation of the Nativity scene at Greccio became an annual event attracting many visitors to the heretofore obscure village. Famous cribs sprang up and were presented throughout southern and central Europe.

During the Renaissance, painted landscape backgrounds, and increasingly realistic figures, richly clad, elaborate shrines and processions endowed the cribs with the characteristics of highly ornate pageants. In modern Italy, the Praesepe or manger is seen in every church at Christmas time. In Germany, it is the Krippe; in Czechoslovakia, Jeslika. In Spain and other Catholic countries, the Nacimiento or Nativity scene is everywhere—in churches, public places and private homes.

America, being the melting-pot of Christmas customs and traditions, has taken the tree and the crib to its heart.

Christmas Customs Vary Around the World



Among the fancies that longest survived in Europe, and even became naturalized in America was that at one o'clock Christmas morning, the cattle would turn their heads eastward, get down on their knees and worship the King who was born in a stable.

Of more recent date—during the Christmas season the barnyard cocks crow with more than usual force and frequency.

The Christmas feeding of birds is prevalent in Norway and parts of Sweden. Bunches of oats are placed on houses, trees and fences. The children save their money to be used to purchase bundles of oats.

During the early 19th century, some of the parishioners of the British Isles who paid vicarial tithes, claimed a custom of being entertained at the vicarage Christmas afternoon, with four bushels of malt brewed into ale and beer, two bushels of wheat made into bread, and 50 pounds of cheese. Any food left over was distributed to the poor.

At Cullinst, Ireland, about 1800, was started the forerunner of two American pastimes, "shinney" and the "lottery." Previous to Christmas it was customary for the laboring class to sell chances on a raffle for mutton. The favorite game was described as kamman, which consisted in impelling a wooden ball with a crooked stick to a given

point, while an adversary endeavored to drive it in a contrary direction. The British Isles are rich in Christmas customs.

Starting at eight o'clock Christmas eve, with bells ringing, the children parade the streets of Yorkshire with drums, trumpets, bells, or perhaps with the piker and shovel taken from their humble fire. A firmly or wile cake, one for each member of the family, is always served.

The ancient custom of sword-dancing at Christmas is kept up at Shropshire. Grotesquely dressed dancers perform their annual routine of warlike evolutions, some accompanied by imitations of the ancient hobby-horse.

The pinata is the Mexican equivalent of a Christmas tree. It is a large clay water jug, decked in paper mache ruff and feathers to look like a turkey or peacock. After being filled with toys it is suspended from a doorway.

The Christmas game is followed by the breaking of the pinata. The game starts with a candlelight procession. All doors are closed as the children march through the darkened house until they come to the one over which the pinata is hung. Each child, armed with a stick, tries to break the jar. When the lucky blow is delivered the gay trinkets, bird whistles or red and green candies tumble to the floor.

Country Priest and Schoolmaster Joined to Compose 'Silent Night'

The Christmas hymn, "Silent Night," was written by a German country priest and his friend, the schoolmaster of a neighboring village, for a Christmas now a century gone. After its first use in 1818, in a little Austrian town, it gradually made friends until it came to be known in all Germany and in translation in many other countries.

The author of the verses was Joseph Mohr, born in Salzburg, Austria, in 1792. He was ordained a priest by the Roman Catholic bishop of Salzburg in 1815, and when he wrote the song was assistant at Laufen, on the Salza, near Salzburg. Later he held pastorates in various other places, and died in 1848.

The schoolmaster of Arnsdorf, near Laufen, who wrote the music of this and a number of lesser known hymns, was Franz Gruber, born in Hochburg in 1787. He died in 1863 at Hallein, near Salzburg, where he was organist.

HOUSEHOLD HINTS

Sitting on the edge of a mattress weakens the edge and causes it to sag.

Wax ash trays with floor wax to prevent ashes from sticking to tray.

Add a handful of salt to the last rinse in cold weather, and the clothes will not freeze as they are hung out.

For a glazed appearance on pies, brush lightly with cream, or beaten egg and water, before placing in the oven.

When putting a dish directly on ice put a rubber jar ring under it to prevent the dish from slipping off the ice.

Lay your vacuum cleaner on the floor and pass your dust mop back and forth before the opening to clean the mop.

Use discarded tea leaves to clean the inside of a flower vase. Moisten the leaves with vinegar and let stand in vase overnight. Next morning apply warm soap suds to finish the job.

To remove coffee, tea or chocolate stains, sprinkle them with borax and soak in cold water. After soaking, pour boiling water through the cloth and the stain will disappear.

Weights on the barn and shed doors should be adjusted so that the doors will close by themselves, thus avoiding the necessity of stopping to set down a couple of pails or a sack of feed to close the door.

When grown indoors in window box or in flowerpots, herbs do best in a south window where they get plenty of sunlight.

Candidate Charged Public To Hear Campaign Talks

Following his announcement that he was a candidate for the Democratic nomination for President in the 1972 election, George Francis Train made over 1,000 speeches; yet his name was not mentioned at the convention, says Colliers.

However, his disappointment was assuaged by the \$90,000 that he had made by charging admission to his campaign addresses, the only time such a scheme ever succeeded in this country.

MOTHER GRAY'S SWEET POWDERS

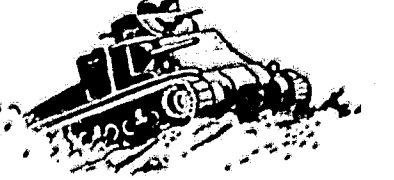
Has merited the confidence of mothers for more than 45 years. Good for children who suffer occasional constipation—and for all the family when a pleasantly acting laxative is needed. Package of 16 easy-to-take powders, 8c. Be sure to ask for Mother Gray's Sweet Powders. At all drug stores. Caution: use only as directed.

STRAINS, SORENESS CUTS, BURNS

A favorite household antiseptic dressing and liniment for 98 years—Hartford's BALSAM OF MYRRH. It contains soothing gums to relieve the soreness and ache of over-used and strained muscles. Takes the sting and itch out of burns, scalds, insect bites, oak and ivy poisoning, wind and sun burn, chafing and chapped skin. Its antiseptic action lessens the danger of infection whenever the skin is cut or broken.

Keep a bottle handy for the minor casualties of kitchen and nursery. At your druggist—trial size bottle 35c; household size 65c; economy size \$1.25. U. G. HANFORD MFG. CO., SYRACUSE, N. Y. Sole makers of

Balsam of Myrrh



Keep the Battle Rolling With War Bonds and Scrap

When Your Back Hurts—

And Your Strength and Energy Is Below Par

It may be caused by disorder of kidney function that permits poisonous waste to accumulate. For truly many people feel tired, weak and miserable when the kidneys fail to remove excess acids and other waste matter from the blood.

You may suffer aching backache, rheumatic pains, headaches, dizziness, getting up at night, leg pains, swelling, sometimes frequent and acrid urination with smarting and burning is another sign that something is wrong with the kidneys or bladder.

There should be no doubt that prompt treatment is wiser than neglect. Use Doan's Pills. It is better to rely on a medicine that has won countrywide approval than on something less favorably known. Doan's have been tried and tested many years. Are at all drug stores. Get Doan's today.

DOAN'S PILLS

Classified Advertising

Twenty-five words or less, one week, 25 cents; second week, 15 cents; each additional week, 10 cents.
Each word more than 25, one cent per word the first week and one-half cent per word each succeeding week.

FOR SALE

FOR SALE—New Milch Cow, 5 Years Old. R. L. FOSTER, Sunday River, Bethel, Maine.

MISCELLANEOUS

STOLEN—Thursday, Dec. 14—Pocketbook containing six ration books, gasoline ration book, check book, two billfolds, \$18.00—valuable papers and other articles. Reward for return. MRS. SIDNEY DYKES, Bethel.

FOUND—Two pairs of shell-rim glasses in Bethel village. C. F. IZZEN OFFICE.

Leave Shoes at Chamberlin's Store for repair and clothes to clean Wednesday and Saturday. EXCEL CLEANERS AND DYERS, INC., Auburn, Maine, 442.

LEAVE SHOES AT EARL DAVIS for repair. RICHER'S SHOE SHOP, Gorham, N. H. 404.

GREETING FROM OVERSEAS
A V-Mail Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, too! This wish is all that we can send but there is something we can do. We're going to finish off these Japs.
For that we all will strive; For that we can be home for Christmas.
In nineteen forty-five.
Over miles of land and water Comes this message to you all; From a U S Navy Sea Bee Who heard his Country's call.
Earllyn "Stubbie" Wheeler—Admiralty Island.

BUSINESS CARDS

E. L. GREENLEAF OPTOMETRIST

will be at his rooms over

Rowe's Store

SATURDAY, JAN. 6

G. L. KNEELAND

Osteopath

Office in Annie Young House
Hours: 9 to 12; 2 to 5:30; 7 to 9
Sundays by Appointment
PHONE 94

GERRY BROOKS

ATTORNEY AT LAW

Broad Street

BETHEL, MAINE

Telephone 74

JOHN F. IRVINE

Cemetery Memorials

Granite - Marble - Bronze

LETTERING—CLEANING

PHONE: BETHEL 23-31

GERARD A. WILLIAMS

ATTORNEY AT LAW

Closed for Duration of War

Address Mailed to Box 34, Bethel

DR. RALPH O. HOOD

Osteopathic Physician

at the home of

Mrs. Clifford Merrill

High Street, Mondays

ELMER E. BENNETT

AGENT

New York Life Insurance Co.

Bethel, Maine

S. S. Greenleaf

Funeral Home

Modern Ambulance Equipment

TELEPHONE 112 BETHEL, ME

DAY AND NIGHT SERVICE

HAROLD CHAMBERLIN

Agent

THE MUTUAL BENEFIT LIFE

INSURANCE COMPANY

The Policyholders' Company

Bethel, Maine

BLAKE'S GARAGE & WELDING SHOP

Phones—Shop 44—Residence 42-4

NEW LOCATION

Opposite Old Corn Shop on

Cross Street

Now Open for Business

CHURCH ACTIVITIES

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

John J. Foster, Minister

There will be no Church School on Sunday morning, December 24, but the Church School members will attend the eleven o'clock service and take part in the White Gift Service.

11:00 Kindergarten Class, Mrs. Orrell H. Anderson and Miss Marlene Anderson in charge.

11:00 Morning Worship, Sermon Topic "Gifts For The King."

On Sunday night, December 24th, in the Church auditorium at eight o'clock, the Year-Round Club will present a Christmas Pageant entitled "The First Christmas Miracle."

The Guild will meet at the Manse on Wednesday evening at eight o'clock. A program based on famous religious paintings taken from the book "Christ in the Fine Arts," by Cynthia Pearl Maus, will be presented.

METHODIST CHURCH

William Penner, Pastor

9:45 Church School, Miss Minnie Wilson, superintendent.

11:00 The Christmas Worship service. Sermon theme: "The quest for the Christ." Christmas anthem by the choir. "A Star for Bethlehem." Organist and director, Mrs. Harry Lyon.

6:30 Youth Fellowship gathering at the church. The group will go out and sing Christmas carols to "shut-ins" and later gather at the home of Bob and Edna York for refreshments.

On Saturday, Dec. 23 at 7:00 o'clock there will be a Christmas program and party around the Christmas tree at the church.

On New Year's Eve there will be a candle lighting service to remember the service men and women who have gone out from our parish.

Testimonial meetings second Wednesday of every month.

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE CHURCH

Services Sunday morning at 10:45.

"Christ Jesus" is the subject of the Lesson-Sermon that will be read in all Churches of Christ Scientist, on Sunday, December 24.

The Golden Text is: "The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light: they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death upon them hath the light shined" (Isaiah 9:1).

The citations from the Bible include the following passages: "And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth, For the Law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ" (John 1:14-17).

The Lesson-Sermon also includes the following selections from the Christian Science textbook Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures by Mary Baker Eddy: "Christ the divine manifestation of God, which comes to the flesh to destroy the incarnate error. Jesus demonstrated Christ: he proved that Christ is the divine idea of God the Holy Ghost, or Comforter, revealing the divine Principle, Love, and leading into all truth" (pages 583, 10-11 and 332, 19-22).

BRYANT FOND

BAPTIST CHURCH

Rev. Franklin S. Koehnle, Pastor

Miss Margaret L. Howe, Organist and Choir director.

Sermon "Around the Cradle of Jesus"

Sunday evening at 7:30 the Annual Christmas concert and Christmas tree

Wednesday evening prayer meeting in the parsonage

Bible Club Friday afternoon 2:30

Choir rehearsal Friday evening.

MARRIED

At Watford, Dec. 9 by Rev. W. I. Hull Miss Theo Paine of Freeport and T. Sgt. Maurice Morrill of Watford.

DIED

At Bethel, Dec. 19, True J. Brown aged 74 years.

MIDDLE INTERVALE

The planning meeting of the Farm Bureau was held at Mrs. Susie Capen's Wednesday with Mrs. Beatrice Foster in charge. Officers for the coming year were elected and a Christmas sale was held in the afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Willis Ward and family were in Lewiston Saturday.

Miss Pearl Doye was a week end guest of Miss Elizabeth Ward.

Mr. and Mrs. Augustus Carter and Mr. and Mrs. Richard Stevens were in Rumford Saturday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Harold Bartlett and Leo Arsenault were in Rumford Saturday afternoon.

SOUTH WOODSTOCK

Mrs. Harlan Andrews is quite ill.

Mrs. George Hendrickson remains seriously ill.

The Willing Workers will hold their annual Christmas meeting at the home of Mrs. Velma Davis on Wednesday of this week. Dinner will be served at noon.

Mrs. Mary Fleming and Mrs. Myrtle Thurlow were at Norway and Oxford on Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. Lenwood Andrews will entertain her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Woods from Malden, Mass. over the Christmas holidays.

Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Davis will go to Preport for the holiday week end to be with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Omar Brown and family.

Mrs. Cora Andrews will go to Portland Friday to spend the week end and Christmas with her daughter and husband, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Cloves.

Miss Edith Davis is visiting relatives in Portland this week.

Schools closed last Thursday for a two weeks vacation. A Christmas program and tree was held in the evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Eliza Davis were at Waterville Saturday to install the School officers there.

SCHOOL OFFICERS

Week of December 18, 1944

Grade Sav. Bank Total P C

I \$8.00 \$5.25 76

II 6.00 4.85 74

III 5.00 3.85 69

IV 8.00 4.65 62

V \$27.00 \$18.60 52

VI 5.00 4.85 56

VII 7.00 4.00 58

VIII 8.00 3.10 52

\$28.00 \$15.05

First and Seventh grades have no officers.

NORTH NEWRY

Paul Wight entered Community Hospital, Rumford, Friday, for surgery.

Betty Wight is spending her Christmas vacation with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Wight.

The Newry Farm Bureau meets Wednesday with Mrs. Bertha Davis. Officers for next year will be elected and a Christmas tree will be enjoyed by the members.

Word has been received that Miss Delma Ross has joined the Marines and will report for training soon.

Miss Carrie Wight was at home last week end.

Ernest Buck was in town with his hay press last week pressing hay for Fred Wight, H. R. Powers, and others.

ROWE HILL

Recent callers at Orman Palmer were Mr. and Mrs. Armand Pearce and daughter, Sandra, Charles Gibbs and son, Robert; Herbert Hinkley and John Chapman, all of Turner.

Miss Eunice Palmer was a week end visitor from Berlin, N. H.

Miss Sylvia Ring who has been staying with her grandmother, Mrs. Margaret Bryant returned to her home in West Peru, Saturday.

Mrs. Winifred Hanscom was in Bethel Saturday. She spent Saturday night with her sister, Mrs. Iva Lang at Locke Mills and went with Mr. and Mrs. Robert Cole to North Newry Sunday.

Mrs. Elizabeth Bailey returned home last Friday from Auburn. Walter was very sick with pneumonia while there.

CHRISTMAS PARTY

On Sunday a Christmas dinner and party was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Guy E. Rice, for Pvt. C. Boverett Cross, who is spending at fourteen day furlough with relatives and friends at Locke Mills.

Those present were Mrs. Ethel Cross, Mr. and Mrs. Carlton Lapham and family, Mr. and Mrs. Rodney Cross and family, Mrs. E. Everett Cross.

Pvt. Cross left Wednesday night for California.

Merry Christmas!

Noel! Noel!

While ageless Christmas carols fill the air this thought comes to mind. We would like to share with you our Yuletide happiness, and to feel that in this year of grace, 1944, Christmas will mean more to you than it has meant for many years past.

VAN TELEPHONE & TELEGRAPH CO.

Among men who live in work clothes all day long, this label

TOPS 'EM ALL!

At Advertisers in the Saturday Evening Post

Lee

UNION MADE SHIRTS AND PANTS

124 1/2" and 134" waist

Dick Young's Service Station

Railroad Street, Bethel

ALDER RIVER GRANGE

Alder River Grange held a regular meeting Friday evening, Dec. 15 with Worthy Master, Stephen Abbott in the chair. Ten members were present. Officers were elected for 1945:

Worthy Master—Stephen Abbott

Overseer—Lendall Noyes

Lecturer—Bernice Noyes

Steward—Richard Carter

Assistant Steward—Lewis Curtis

Chaplain—Mabel Abbott

Treasurer—John Irvine

Secretary—Edith Howe

Gate Keeper—Carolyn Noyes

Cores—Florence Farwell

Pomona—Marguerite Bartlett

Flora—Louise Coolidge
L. A. S.—Marilyn Noyes
Janitor—Lendall Noyes

It was decided that installation should be held as an open meeting Friday evening, Jan. 5, with a supper preceding the installation of officers. The supper committee are Helen Newmarker, Sadie Knight and Edith Howe.

The Master and overseer are committee to see about the installing officer.

Song, Silent Night

Exchange of gifts on the Christmas tree and refreshments of pop corn concluded the program hour.



CHRISTMAS AGAIN!

Who will say that smiles were brighter or spirits keener at the Christmases of our fathers than they are today?

At any rate, friends and neighbors, that's the kind of a Christmas we are wishing for you this Yuletide of 1944—just a good old-fashioned Christmas!

Russell's General Store

Hanover, Maine



THE HOPE old Santa will not forget you

this Christmas of 1944, but that he will cram that stocking so full it can hold no more.

Good cheer, good fellowship, and Merry Christmas to you all!

GOOD WILL

Bethel Restaurant



THE STAR IN THE EAST

Down through the ages has come the story of the shepherds tending their flocks at night, awed by the Star in the East.

During this sacred season, mellowed by the thought of those who cannot be with us, we have abundant reason for gratitude. We have come a long way since the dark Christmas of 1941. The Star in the East shines brighter now.

That this may, indeed, be a Merry Christmas for you and yours is our ardent wish.

D. Grover Brooks

Effective July 1, 1944

SLABS \$3.00 per cord

Sawing \$1.50 per cord

Delivering in Village, full load \$2.00 per cord

Sawed Slabs 2 cords to a load 4 ft. Slabs 3 cords to a load

BUTTINGS \$9.00 per large load, delivered

These prices are below the collings which were not for this area in November 1943. Terms: Cash on delivery.

P. H. CHADBOURNE & CO.

Tel. 135-2

HARK, THE ANGEL VOICES!

May the sweet old Christmas story bring to you this year a deeper meaning . . . a larger store of its joy and peace and gladness than it ever has before.

Bethel Theatre

